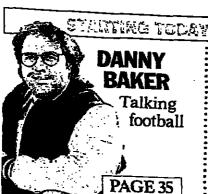
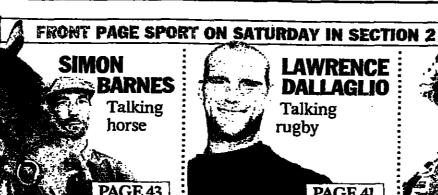
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First U-turn enrages the old guard

Hague deserts hereditary Tory peers

WILLIAM HAGUE is preparing to abandon the Tories' long-standing opposition to Labour plans to strip herediary peers of their voting

unexpected move, which would mark the biggest policy shift since Mr Hague became leader, would put him on a new collision course with the Tory old guard. The Conservatives, whose hereditary peers dominate the Lords, have always defended the hereditary principle.

The Tory election manifesto opposed fundamental changes to the constitution "which have not been fully thought through — such as opposition proposals on the House of Lords". But Mr Hague has told senior advisers that the party has to reconsider its position and is likely to abstain on a government Bill next year which would abolish and sitting rights.

Despite the planned U-turn. the Tory leadership would still try to alter some of Labour's plans. The change, which emerged from Mr Hague's policy review, was canvassed among a small group of party officials.

Hague loyalists in the Lords last night tried to play down the nethink, driven by the reality of Labour's 178-seat Commons majority which would guarantee the legislation went through. Senior strategists at Central Office have convinced Mr Hague that the party had nothing to gain, and plenty to lose, by opposing a constitutional

change popular in the country. What is the point of getting a bloody nose in a battle we cannot win," said one Hague supporter yesterday. "This is pragmatic politics."

However, the policy change will be opposed by some Tory MPs and could lead to a highnowered rebellion in the Lords. Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the former Lord Chancellor who renounced his hereditary title to take a seat in the Commons, warned last night Mr Hague would not

have it all his own way. "He should leave things as they are," Lord Hailsham said. "The system has worked well since time immemorial. Critics of the system overlook eerages. I will vote against it

there is a free vote." A senior Tory source in Lords said: "We are not unhappy with the idea of reform, but we think it should be reform that works and everything we have seen from the

Labour party won't work." Mr Hague's supporters said last night that the fact he was prepared to consider such a radical change indicated that there were no "no-go" areas for his leadership. They said that Mr Hague, like Tony

Blair, was prepared to take on critics in his own party as part of a comprehensive review of policy and organisation.

Labour will unveil the first stage of its reforms of the upper house in the Queen's Speech next year with the introduction of legislation to abolish the sitting and voting rights of hereditary peers. The Tories have 326 hereditary peers, Labour 15, and Liberal Democrats 23. The move will also prevent 205 hereditary crossbench peers from sitting.

The first stage is likely to pass through Parliament by the summer of 1999 and come into force later that year. The Tories said Labour's plans would turn the Lords into an "ermine-clad quango" of Labour life peers who would never oppose the Prime Minister.

The row over the House of Lords came as counting began today in the ballot of Conser-Hague's leadership and outline plans for party reform. Nicholas Winterton, a member of the 1922 executive who backed Mr Hague in the final ballot, suggested the reforms might sweep away too many of the party's traditions and eventually, its fundamental principles. "We don't need to have a Stalinist . . . situation in the Conservative Party, dramatically to change what we actually believed in," he said.

Tim Hames, page 22



By Grace Bradberry, style editor

KATE MOSS, left, and Jade Jagger yesterday paid a fashion designer the greatest compliment - they waived fees for modelling in his show in return for his brilliantly coloured and hand-embroidered clothes, which sell at about £500 for a dress.

Newcomer Matthew Williamson, 25. staged his first catwalk show during London Fashion Week yesterday with a little help from his wellknown friends, including the supermodel Helena Christensen as well as her colleague Miss Moss and

Catwalking for the kit

model, mother of two and the daughter of Mick and Bianca Jagger. Miss Jagger wore a bright yellow,

silk drape top with lilac mini-skirt, while Kate Moss modelled a blue cashmere cardigan over a fuchsia, bias-cut dress. The showstopper was a nude georgette dress with silver beaded cobwebs, worn by Helena

Christensen. This was only Williamson's third in 1996, but the St Martin's graduate's quirky, decorative designs have been bought by influential London fashion stores such as Browns and A La Mode as well as Barneys, the New

York department store. After the show, staged in a rehearsal hall in Notting Hill. Williamson played down his star cast, "Some of them are personal friends and they all wear my clothes anyway," he said.

Williamson was not the only designer to benefit from celebrity connections. Tomasz Starzewski let the television comedians Hale and Pace join his team of workers. Their creations - two red pinstripe shift dresses - were in the show, which will feature in a BBC documentary.

Demi Moore and Janet Jackson are among the celebrities expected to attend the six-day event. Sponsored by Vidal Sassoon, it is the biggest yet with 50 catwalk shows and a trade exhibition featuring 140 designers.

Magazine, page 48

WEATHER CROSSWORD..... COURT & SOCIAL.....24 LETTERS .. OBITUARIES SIMON JENKINS22 BUSINE S NEWS 27-31 WEEKEIND MONEY.. 51-64 WEEKEND τέ_{ROP}ERTY... TRAVEL .. Golf fightback On the first day of the Ryder Cup Europe Rought back to hold the US 3-3. Colin Montgomerie and Bernhard

Langer lost to Tiger Woods and Mark O'Meara in the fourballs but won in the ... Pages 33 3/5

Rusedski wins

Greg Rusedski staged one of his customary comebacks to reach the semi-final of the Grand Slam Cup in Munich, the richest tournament in tennis. He will now meet Pete



EMU hint pushes market to record

By Alasdair Murray and Philip Webster

REPORTS claiming that the Government is preparing for an early entry into a European single currency pushed the stock market to a record high but caused the pound to plunge yesterday.

The FTSE 100 recorded its biggest one-day points gain for ten years, closing up 160.8 points at 5226.3. At its peak. the market touched 5244.3. a rise of 178.8 points.

Bond prices also soared but the pound slumped on the foreign exchanges. Sterling fell to a four-month low against the German mark, to close down four pfennigs at DM2.8324.

The Government moved quickly to play down the reports as speculation. It is preparing a statement in the next two months to confirm that Britain will not take part in the first wave on January I. 1999. It will promise all the help for preparations for economic and monetary union during the British presidency of the EU in the first six

months of next year. The move comes amid growing signs of optimism among ministers that the Government will be able to recommend entry into the single currency in a second wave.

Britain will host a summit of heads of government in London in April or May which will decide which countries can enter in the first wave. Ministers have decided that it would be illogical for Britain not to make its own position clear before that

The Confederation of British Industry said last night it looked forward to an announcement on EMU as it would bring "greater certainty" to British businesses.

Leading article, page 23 Shares soar, page 27

Drug test cloud over Tufnell

BY JOHN GOODBODY

PHIL TUFNELL, the Middlesex spin-bowler, faces being dropped from the England party to tour the West Indies this winter because he allegedly refused to give a urine sample in a random drugs test

last week. Tufnell, 31, now has to appear before a disciplinary committee of the England and Wales Cricket Board to anthe charge. He is reportedly on huliday abroad and unavailable for comment.

The spinner's troubled career has included being fined £800 in 1994 by a North London court for assaulting his former fiancee, Jane McEvoy. while she was pregnant. Last February, he was accused of smoking marijuana in the lavatory of a restaurant in New Zealand, an allegation he denied.

Turbulent career, page 40

Pensioner faces war crimes trial

By Stewart Tendler, crime correspondent

RETIRED British Rail worker has been charged with war crimes in Nazi-occupied Eastern Europe, Scotland Yard said last night.

Andrzej Sawoniuk, 77, from East London, faces five charges of murdering Jews in Belarus, once part of the Soviet Union.

He was charged by officers from the Yard's war crimes unit after appearing voluntarily at Southwark police station yesterday. He was bailed to appear at Bow Street Magistrates' Court on October 30. The decision to charge Mr Sawoniuk, known as Anthony Sawoniuk, was made after John Morris, the Attorney General, gave his consent to a prosecution under war crimes

Mr Sawoniuk came to Britain in 1946. He has been under investigation for more than

He is the second man in

Britain to be prosecuted under the 1990 War Crimes Act. In January three charges of murder against Szymon Serafinowicz, 85, were dropped after a judge at the Old Bailey decided he was unfit to plead because of his mental state.

He died this summer. Serafinowicz was originally charged with murdering four unidentified Jews while working as a senior policeman serving with the Nazis. One of the murder charges was subsequently dropped by the Crown Prosecution Service.

After the collapse of the trial, some MPs condemned the investigations as a waste of time and money. However, there was also strong crossnarliamentary support for carrying on with the process.

The war crimes unit, based in the Yard's organised crime ing three other elderly men living in Britain.



Didn't we see one on Safari?

What a gay old time for new Labour By ANDREW PIERCE

I bought tickets for Labour's gay night

THE Labour leadership has approved a gay night at the party conference hotel where Tony Blair and the rest of the Cabinet are staying. The event will rival the more raucous attractions of the traditional Welsh and Scottish evenings,

POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

which were favourites of Neil Kinnock and John Smith. While beer, whisky, and rugby songs dominate the Celtic gatherings ballroom dancing will be the main attraction at

Wednesday's cabaret and discotheque at the Metropole Hotel. In the past the gay movement has been consigned to meetings on the fringe. But

with one openly gay member of the Cabinet, and a Government pledge for a free vote on the age of consent, the leadership has approved a gay celebration.

All MPs have been invited and fly sheets have been printed saying: "Be gay for a night." Jackie Clune, a cabaret artist, will perform the songs of the late Karen Carpenter and the star attraction will be an all-gay dance troupe, the Pink Dancers, performing ballroom and Latin American dressed in flamenco pink. They will lead the guests through their paces in a 1950's line-dancing routine. A disco will feature gay music with the Village People heading the hit parade.

The 400 tickets are selling fast and the

organisers hope that Chris Smith, the first openly gay Cabinet minister, will join in the dancing with his partner, Dorian Jabri, who discussed their relationship in The Times. Labour now has four MPs who have come out. Stephen Twigg, the conqueror of Michael Portilio in Enfield Southgate, Ben Bradshaw, the MP for Exeter, and Angela Eagle, the MP for Wallasey. They are all expected to appear.

Stonewall, the organisation which campaigns for lesbian and gay equality, has organised the evening which has become the most talked about event on the conference party circuit. Anya Palmer, research officer, said: "It's just a fun · night with no speeches."





before birth

WEEKEND



Back to Nature Notes Meet Peter Brookes. The Times cartoonist



A lot of bottle Jancis Robinson on the New World wine revolution

WEEKEND



Peppered with cash Where the Spice Girls

really, really count

over for the past lew years for an Eu-wide ban on tobacco advertising. Other countries include The Netherlands, Denmark, Germany and The Tories opposed the ban because it resented greater interference from Brussels and was wary of taking on the tobacco industry. However. Labour included a pledge to

ban tobacco advertising in its manifesto and the Government has since announced that this will be extended to sports sponsorship. Finland and Belgium have

already introduced a ban on tobacco sponsorship of major sporting events and France has some restrictions on sports sponsorship. But Britain is now confident of toughening up the EU directive. which had originally only

By Frances GIBB

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Home Secretary will be chal-

lenged today over the Government's

plans to look again at whether to scrap

Jack Straw, the key speaker at today's annual Bar conference in

London, originally opposed the pro-

posal to remove a suspect's right to

choose jury trial in many middle-

ranking cases that can go either to

magistrates or the Crown Court.

However, the Home Secretary indicat-

ed recently that there was some

a defendant's right to elect jury trial.



By JILL SHERMAN, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Government is to press for a Europe-wide ban on tobacco advertising and sports sponsorship in a move that could speed up a ban in this

Health ministers are now optimistic they can get agreement for a new directive at Luxembourg in December, which could result in outlawing tobacco advertising in Britain by next autumn.

The United Kingdom has been one of a number of countries blocking attempts



out Europe. The Government has already agreed that the sports sponsorship ban would be phased in over about four years, allowing most existing contracts, worth £10 million, to be honoured.

to ensure a blanket ban on

sports sponsorship through-

The phasing-in for sports sponsorship would also apply to the EU directive but British sources made clear that they would not allow companies to renegotiate longer contracts to get round the ban.

It is understood that Tessa Jowell, the Health Minister. who will be attending the Luxembourg meeting, has been talking behind the scenes to her European counterparts and is confident that she can get their agreement in December.

The Government still intends to press ahead with a White Paper on measures to reduce smoking and a draft Bill to ban tobacco advertising in December, in case the EU directive fails.

The White Paper is likely to include other proposals to discourage smoking, such as raising the smoking age, banning smoking in public places and changing the location of vending machines.

support for the proposal and said the

Government intend to consult further.

Bar, is expected to reiterate the Bar's

strong opposition to the removal of the

right, which would affect cases such

as theft, handling stolen goods and

It is estimated that the change would

result in at least 20,000 extra cases

being tried by magistrates rather than

going to a Crown Court, saving many

millions of pounds in costs incurred

when cases are sent for jury trial but

the defendant changes their plea to

some sexual offences.

"guilty" at the last minute.

Robert Owen, QC, chairman of the



Lucille McLauchlan and Deborah Parry

Nurses warned of long ordeal

By MIKE THEODOULOU AND DANIEL MCGRORY

THE two British nurses accused over the death of a colleague in Saudi Arabia have been told that they face at least another year's incar-ceration while the country's courts decide their fate.

Deborah Parry and Lucille McLauchlan were "inconsolable" when warned by one of their lawyers this week that the diplomatic overtures and legal haggling over "blood money" would not mean an early release, a legal source told The Times last night. Parry had collapsed when

she heard an erroneous radio broadcast saying that she faced execution. McLauch-lan has been told that the agreement of the dead woman's brother to show demency will also spare her from her sentence of 500 lashes.

Both women are despondent despite hearing a radio broadcast in their cell yesterday by Frank Gilford insisting that he would not ask for the death penalty. He angrily denied making a personal profit from the deal.

Anger over press, page 10

Straw challenged on right to jury trial

Dublin frees five IRA men as 'reward' to Sinn Fein

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER, CHIEF CORRESPONDENT

THE Irish government released five IRA prisoners last night in a move widely seen as a reward for the IRA ceasefire and Sinn Fein's participation in the peace process.

The releases angered lovalists and hardline Unionists in Northern Ireland who complained of yet another concession to republicans while the loyalists' three-year ceasefire had yielded hardly any benefits for more than 300 of their inmates in British prisons.

The men released from the Republic's top-security Portlaoise prison were arrested on the border of Donegal and Derry in 1992 for possessing three assault rifles. two heavy machine guns and nearly 700 rounds of animunition. The prosecution at their 1994 trial claimed they were planning to shoot down a British army helicopter and

they were jailed for six years. The five were Patrick Villa, 28. Dermot McFarland, 32, and Kieran McFadden, 34, all from Londonderry, and two men from Donegal - Michael McLaughlin, 31, and Paul Rogers, 35.

The Irish government granted early releases to more than 35 republican prisoners during the previous IRA ceasefire which last 18 months until the Canary Wharf bomb-

ing in February last year. Before yesterday it had given only two low-level IRA prisoners early releases since

The conference, sponsored by The

Times, Allied Dunbar and Toshiba.

and organised by Blair Communica-

tions, is the top event in the Bar year.

Mr Straw, who was invited by Cherie

Booth. QC. this year's conference

chairwoman, is expected to depict his

vision of the criminal justice system in

the 21st century.

Among other key issues to be debated are proposed changes to the

criminal justice system, including the

so-called defendant's right to silence,

and police surveillance powers con-

☐ A judge issued a warning yesterday

the latest IRA ceasfire began

on July 20. Sinn Fein welcomed last night's releases and called on the British Government to begin releasing all political

prisoners" immediately. Gerry Adams, Sinn Fein's president, raised the matter with Bertie Ahern, the Irish Prime Minister, and John O'Donoghue, the Justice Minister, when they met in Dublin last week.

Ian Paisley, the Democratic Unionist Party leader, said Dublin had released the IRA prisoners *to aid the IRA in wringing concessions from the British government".

He warned that "in the next two or three months you will have a running amnesty for prisoners. Little by little they will all be let out."

The British government said yesterday that it had approved the transfer of one lovalist prisoner from Scorland to Northern Ireland and of another from England to Scotland.

It was considering a request of a third to be moved from England to Scotland.

Mr Paisley met Mo Mowlam, the Northern Ireland Secretary, at Stormont yesterday, but rejected her appeal for the Democratic Unionist Party to rejoin the peace process which it boycotted in July.

Valerie Grove, page 21

to barristers who take on too many

cases. Judge Dennis Levy, QC, said

defendants were needlessly being kept

If things did not change there would

be financial "repercussions", he said,

He said he had been about to make a

"wasted costs order" in a case until

Andrew Hall, for the defence, and

Janet Boston, the Crown Prosecution

Service counsel, had apologised to him.

court to represent a client after another

case was delayed. Miss Boston was

late because a defendant in a different

court was not taken there on time.

Mr Hall was late arriving in his

waiting to learn their fate."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Cook halts export of 'armoured carriers'

Robin Cook was criticised yesterday for banning the sale of "armoured personnel carriers" to Indonesia when it emerged that they were six converted Land Rovers without any offensive capability. They came from the Rover Group but had been converted into armoured vehicles by Courtaulds Aerospace, a subsidiary of Courtaulds, the textiles firm. Courtaulds had applied for an export licence to sell them to Indonesia, which ordered them for its police force and had paid £600,000. The Foreign Secretary rejected the export licence application under his new ethics guidelines, prohibiting the sale of military equipment that could be used for internal repression.

Welsh ally for Davies

Dafydd Wigley, the Welsh Nationalist leader, defended Ron Davies, the Welsh Secretary, yesterday against what he called a "vicious" campaign by some Labour MPs to elbow him from office. Mr Wigley attacked critics of Mr Davies who, he said, had been through hell and back to get a Welsh assembly established". Pledging Plaid Cymru's backing for the assembly. Mr Wigley welcomed the Welsh Secretary's consensus approach.

Gordon Brown tops poll

Gordon Brown is the most popular Chancellor since records began, according to a Gallup poll. His work rate records began, according to a Gallup poll. His work rate—handing control over interest rates to the Bank of England and introducing a sweeping budget within months of taking office—has won the Chancellor a 70 per cent approval rating. Mr Brown's nearest rival in the poll of post-war Chancellors is the late R. A. Butler, who won an approval rating of 63 per cent in 1953.

Mass for Princess

Frances Shand Kydd, the mother of Diana, Princess of Wales, will speak tonight at an "upbeat" memorial mass for her daughter at St Columba's Cathedral in Oban. She will give a reading during the special evening service, which will be attended by Archbishop Keith O'Brien, the second most senior elergyman in Scotland. At Mrs Shand Kydd's request, there will be "uplifting" organ music more akin to the "ressurrection than the crucifixion"

Ovary doctor guilty

A leading gynaecologist was found guilty of serious professional misconduct yesterday and admonished by the General Medical Council for removing a 35-year-old woman's ovaries without her consent. John Studd, 57, was found to have earried out the operation in July 1992 without justification but the GMC's Professional Conduct Committee rejected Jacqueline Bartley's claim that he failed to tell her what he had done. Mr Studd can continue to practise.

Prep schools' success

An analysis of the results of more than 150 preparatory schools showed them to be almost 50 per cent ahead of the state average for 11-year-olds. In English and science, 94 per cent of preparatory school children reached Level 4 of the national curriculum, compared with 63 and 69 per cent respectively in state schools; in mathematics, the figure was 93 per cent, while state primaries averaged 69 per cent.

Girls fall from flats

Two girls aged 13 and 14 are critically ill after falling from a balcony on the fifth floor of a block of flats in Bristol. Police are investigating claims that one of the girls had threatened to throw herself off and the other fell trying to save her. Residents and teachers from the girls' school, which is near the flats, gave first aid to the injured pair before they were taken to Bristol Royal Infirmary.

Food for thought

The best way to make fat people eat healthily is to ask them to record their normal diet, according to a study by the Institute of Food Research in Reading. Doctors previously thought that the obese were lying when they claimed to eat bird-like portions in studies, but they have discovered that people reduce their food intake while their diet is being monitored — and then hit the fridge after the study is over.

Keane 'in bar brawl'

Police were brought in to investigate a bar room brawl in the early hours last Thursday allegedly involving Roy Keane, the Manchester United captain. The Irish international is said to have been involved in an argument with two men at the Chester Court Hotel in Manchester. A police spokesman said: "A complaint was received and then retracted and no further action is being taken."

US buys Teletubbies

Teletubbies, the BBC television programme for young children, is to be broadcast in the United States. Under a deal announced yesterday, the corporation has sold 40 episodes of the programme to the American Public Broadcasting Service (PBS), a non-commercial channel designed to give viewers more instructive fare than is available on the country's plethora of commercial channels.

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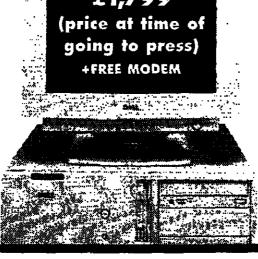
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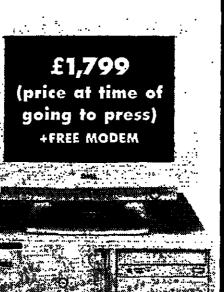
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relegion 150

'Catastrophe' for world heritage



A monk offering water to one of the rescue workers at the basilica. The rubble inside was three metres deep

Treasures of 13th and 14th century left cracked and crumbling

after earthquakes rock central Italy, reports Richard Owen

TWO powerful earthquakes which struck Italy yesterday killed at least nine people and badly damaged 13th and 14th century frescoes by Giotto and Cimabue in the basilica of St Francis of Assisi.

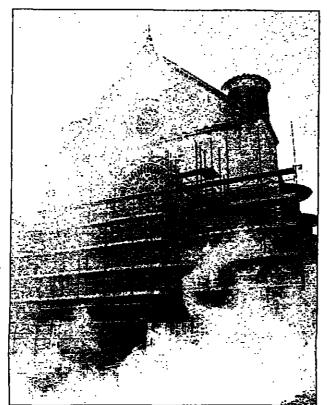
The dead included two Franciscan friars and an art restoration expert, who were examining damage caused by the first shock when the second, more severe, earthquake brought down the vaulted ceiling of the upper church of

One of the friars, aged 25, had only just joined the order at Assisi. The other was aged 40. Rescue workers said they feared that more people could be trapped beneath threemetre layer of rubble.

The partial collapse of the church was described as "a pure catastrophe for world heritage" by the director of the Louvre. One Cimabue masterpiece. The Acts of the Apostles. appeared to have been almost completely destroyed.

This is all that is left of one tino Centroni, the Superintendent of Fine Arts for Umbria, as he held a pile of dust and crumbling plaster in his hands. Behind him bulldozers and masked rescue workers shifted fallen masonry in the doorway of the basilica and clouds of dust

A section of vaulting depicting an early church figure. attributed both to the young Giotto and Cimabue, was also believed to have been de-



Dust clouds rising as rescuers remove debris in the basilica, where three people were killed

stroyed and at least two Giotto frescoes had jagged cracks

running down them. Water supplies and road and rail traffic were disrupted across central Italy, and the Government declared an

The first earthquake, mea-suring 5.5 on the Richter scale, was at 2 33am. The second, at

11.42am, measured 5.7. Both were felt as far north as Alto Adige, in the Italian Alps, and 60 miles south in Rome, where buildings swayed.

Umbria, the epicentre, often has minor tremors and residents and art experts had long feared a major shock which would pose a risk to the many art treasures in towns such as

Assisi and Perugia. Yesterday's earthquakes damaged buildings in the 15th-century Urbino, in the Marche, which has a ducal palace is that is one of the ewels of European art and

The first earthquake was most strongly felt in villages near Assisi and in the relatively remote hill towns and villages of the Appenines. Two elderly couples from the vil-lages of Collecurti and Cesi, in the Marche, were among those who died. Italian television, which interrupted normal programmes throughout the day to carry reports from the area, showed weeping villagers — many of them elderly — standing outside the ruins of their homes. Several villages have been evacuated in case of aftershocks.

Civil defence officials said more than 2,000 people had been made homeless because their houses were damaged or unsafe. Tents and blankets stored after the 1976 Friuli with fresh drinking water and medicines.

Professor Romano Prodi, the Prime Minister, flew to the disaster area with Walter Veltroni, the Deputy Prime Minister and Culture Minister. An Italian cultural affairs minister described the damage to the works of arts as "enormous".

Pierre Rosenberg, director of the Louvre in Paris, said: "We will do all we can to help



It was the damage at Assisi which caused greatest concern. The giant basilica was begun in 1228, two years after the death of St Francis, and its decoration attracted the leading artists of the day. They included Giotto di Bondone (1266-1337), who is credited with laying the foundations of

fore of all modern art - by abandoning the flat, mannered style of Byzantine painting and creating rounded, lifelike human images.

The basilica, divided into upper and lower churches, houses St Francis's tomb which was discovered only in 1818. It has wall frescoes by Martini (1284-1344) and Giovanni Cimabue (cl240-1302). Giotto's cycle of 28 frescoes on the life of St Francis has just been restored, amid scholarly controversy over which were painted by him and which by

Officials said the Basilica of Santa Maria degli Angeli, in

the plain below Assisi, which was built over St Francis's original hermit's hut, had also been damaged.

The epicentre of the earthquake was near Foligno. 20 miles from Assisi, now a largely modern town. Foligno hospital and the Romanesque cathedral at Bevagna were also badly damaged.

Two friars killed as second shock brings down ceiling

Rescuers are using sniffer dogs and bulldozers to find

those buried in the rubble, writes **John Phillips** in Assisi

and spades to find the bodies of the dead as the full horror of the earthquake sank in. Outside the basilica relatives of a municipal draughtsman trapped inside the church, and feared dead, berated television crews for

blocking the path that ambu-

lances were using to take out

RESCUE workers used wheel-

barrows, miniature bulldozers

the dead and injured. Armed police pushing wheelbarrows and civil protection workers using miniature bulldozers piled heaps of rubble on the lawn in front of the basilica as tourists, monks and nuns watched. Late last night police began using sniff-

iast to bright

er dogs to try to find other people who might be buried under the masonry. The head of the basilica's

restoration team said that he had been among about 30 people who were inside the basilica when the second earthquake struck. Sergio Fusetti said that the group was expecting damage and had inspected the building at around 2.40am. He had nor expected that there would be a second earthquake.

When the shock happened we lifted up our heads and saw fragments of the basilica falling on us. We were about thirty people at the time. Some of us began to run and we

were pulling the others along with our hands. The monks who died were behind me. Luckily, I was able to get out of

He added: "The earthquake shock lasted a long time — it seemed like almost a minute. As I left the building large chunks were beginning to collapse."

With the group was Associated Press photographer Plinio Lepri. I was taking pictures of the frescoes when I felt a first tremor," he said. Maybe five minutes later, there was a stronger one and in that instant it seemed like

everything fell around me. There was dust every-



where. I couldn't see anything. The rubble was up to my hips. I saw a light in one part of the cathedral. I had to climb over rubble, and kept falling. I was kind of in shock. I went toward the light and managed to get out a window," he said,

adding that he saw two bodies in the rubble near the front

"It was the worst damage ever to the cathedral since it was built," said Mayor Giorgio Bartolini, covered with dust and his trousers

in a nearby street, nurses brought out weeping elderly women from a rest home. Shops in the area were closed last night. Residents loaded their cars with pillows, bedding and other belongings.

Two hundred people reported damage to their homes. Fontano Bartacci. 57, owner of the hotel 11 Palazzo, lost his home. "We're scared. We've been through it before, but this is the worst tremor we ever felt so we're leaving," he said. His family would stay on the outskirts of town in a friend's camper van.

There are conflicting reports about whether the earthquake had caused serious damage to the most important frescoes within the basilica executed by Giotto and Cimabue. First reports quoted the Superin-

saying that works by the two had been gravely damaged. However, a German monk. Father Gerhard Ruf, who is graphic archive of the basilica. later made a tour of the church to take photographs and said that there were only minor cracks at most to the works by Giotto and Cimabue. He said the main damage was to a fresco, in the trancept of the basilica, which has been attributed to Jacopo Torriti

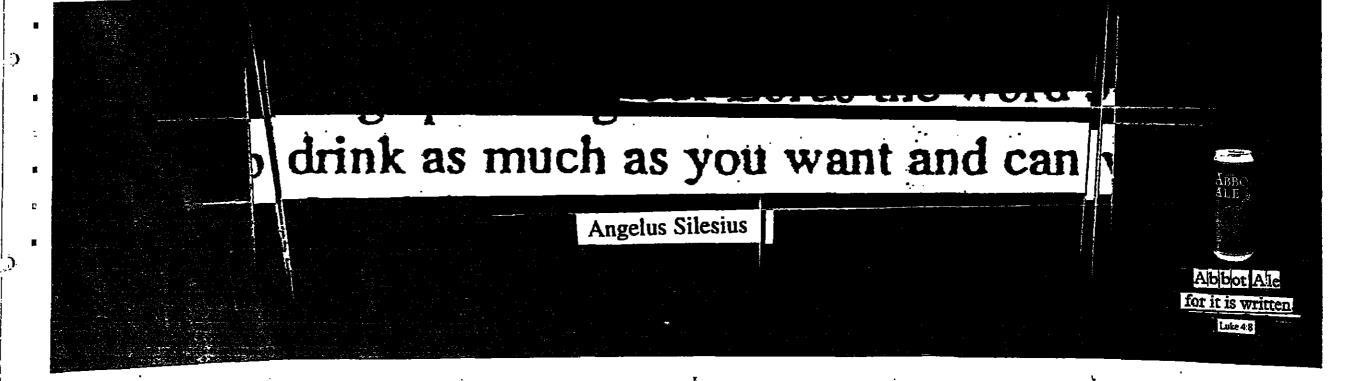
bria, Constantino Centroni, as

among others. Father Ruf said: "Last night I thought that after the first shock it was all over. But the second shock was really much bigger. Thank God that we decided to close the church to tourists this morning. It was by the grace of God that there inside the church." In Assisi vesterday evening many residents decided to

spend the night out of doors in parks or in cars parked outside the city. The damage to the 13th century Basilica coincided with preparations to mark the anniversary of the death of St

Francis on October 3 in 1226. Father Ruf said that the surviving monks would remain in the monastery adjoin-

ing the basilica.
The shock waves were felt as far south as Rome where a caste iron chandelier fell from a reception room in the Italian Senate, severely damaging an usher who was walking underneath. Damage was severe also in the Umbrian town of Faligno where the bell tower of the city's cathedral collapsed.



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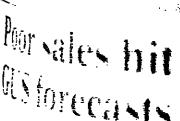
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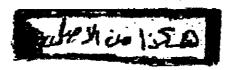
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country a country a





Burglar who read Who's Who is jailed

Violent antiques thief leafed through

the reference work to select judges and peers and planned each raid

in great detail, reports Joanna Bale

A SELF-TAUGHT antiques His gang would then return expert who used violence to force his accomplices to burgle victims whose addresses he got from Who's Who, was jailed for 20 years yesterday.

Nick Stock masterminded the theft of antiques worth more than £2 million in 200 raids across two counties. Police say that since his arrest the burglary rate has dropped dramatically.

He travelled hundreds of miles to reconnoitre his target properties. belonging to judges, peers and a viceadmiral. He then cut telephone wires and disconnected burgiar alarms before sending

in his men. Stock, 34, was said to know enough about valuables to star on BBC1's Antiques Roadshow. Sometimes he raided houses when the owners were in hed because he knew people usually did not switch on their burglar alarms while they were at home.

Detective Sergeant Dave McKinney, who headed the police inquiry, said after the case: "He would often recce a house months in advance. He and he was able to tell them exactly what to take and where it was located. He was ruthless and treated the members of his gang terribly, using violence to secure their attendance at the burglary. He has

an evil air about him." The gang would get rid of what they stole immediately, selling it, or hiding it in nearby woods or undergrowth for collection at a later date. Once they smothered stolen property in fox hones to confuse police sniffer dogs. Only a small amount of the stolen property has been recovered.

Detective Constable Dave Johnson said: "The money went straight into Stock's pocket. Those of the gang that weren't afraid of him got their fair share, but there were those who saw nothing."

Stock was caught when one of his accomplices, Colin Marshal, asked for police protec-tion because he feared his boss was planning to kill him. Marshal is now part of the witness protection scheme. A informant provided

Sentencing Stock to one of



Stock: "had an air of evil about him"

the longest terms for burglary in recent years, Judge Michael Brodrick told him: "These burglaries are by a wide margin the most serious 1 have ever encountered."

Stock, of Fareham, Hampshire, had pleaded guilty at Winchester Crown Court to three burglary conspiracies stretching over five years. He was also sentenced for conspiracy to rob George's jewellers in Southsea, Hampshire, for which a jury had found

him guilty. Stock's gang of accomplices were also jailed.

Stephen Cooledge, 36, of Fareham, was sentenced to 14 years: 912 years for conspiracy

possession of a firearm with intent and 3½ years for conspiracy to burgle, to run

consecutively.

Clay Meader, 22, of the same address, was sentenced to live years for conspiracy to rob and 12 months for conspiracy to burgle, to run

concurrently.

Darren Nicholas, 22, of Crookhorn, Hampshire, was sentenced to nine years for conspiracy to burgle and 12 months for actual bodily harm, to run concurrently.

Richard Bateman, 32, of Fareham, was sentenced to three years for conspiracy to burgle. Michael Pearce, 38, of Sarisbury Green, Hampshire, was sentenced to 412 years for

burglary.

Darren Kearns, 27, of Fareham, was sentenced to four years for conspiracy to burgle. Kevin Wilcox, 26, of Lee-on-Solent was sentenced to three years for burglary.

Dale Saunders, 20, of Fareham, was given a community service order of 200 hours for burglary.

Michael Hanton, 29, of Boscombe, Dorset, was given a suspended sentence of two years for conspiracy to burgle. Karl West, 27, of Portsmouth, was sentenced to three years for burglary. James Iles, 21, of Port-

chester, Hampshire, was given an 80-hour community service order for dishonestly assisting the removal of stolen



Michael Gottlieb is served by a waiter in a hygiene suit in Café La Futura

Food rules protest is on a plate

By Philip Delves Broughton

RESTAURATEURS have of regulations foisted upon them by what they regard as the health nuts and cleanliness freaks of officialdom.

The Restaurateur's Asso-ciation of Great Britain is fighting back against the health scares with shock tactics of its own. It has designed a hideous vision of the restaurant of the future. crippled by regulation, to be unveiled at the Labour Party conference in Brighton

Café La Futura is an epicurean's nightmare of what a restaurant could be like in 2020.

Food police prowl the floor, the waiters look like astronauts in their "hygiene suits" and ask diners:
"Which menu have you been assigned? Low Risk, High Risk or the Menu for Those Challenged with Personal Obesity?"
One diner is asked to step

on the scales before he orders a steak sandwich. Pregnant women are reused alcohol and steak knives are blunted to avoid

Michael Gottlieb, chairman of the association, said that every issue tackled could be traced to a regulation somewhere in Europe

Rush for lottery tickets may mean £28m jackpot

By Carol Midgley, media correspondent

A HUGE last-minute surge in sales of National Lottery tickets is expected today, which could push the double rollover jackpot to £28 million. Ticket sales have increased by 20 per cent in the past two

Many are expected to choose number 44 because it has been drawn more times than any other since the Lottery began in 1994. It has been picked 43 times in 183 draws and has appeared in

the last three draws. If the jackpot is won by one person he or she will become the biggest single winner to date. The highest jackpot paid out to a single ticket on a rollover was £22,590,829, which was won in June 1995 by Mark Gardiner and Paul Maddison. If there is no winner today. Camelot. the lottery organiser, said that it will produce the first triple

rollover with an estimated iackpot of £50 million.

The double rollover, which is a result of there being no jackpot winners last Wednesday or Saturday, is only the third since the lottery began. In January last year there was a statistically unusual occurrence with two double rollovers in succession. Statisticians predicted that this should happen once in 400

Camelot said that during the last double rollover, sales the Saturday passed £60 million, peaking at £9 million in one hour in the

David Epstein, a mathematics expert at Warwick University, said: "Of the 49 numbers, each has a oneseventh chance of being drawn. There have been 183 draws, which means each number should have been

picked 26 times, but the number 44 has been picked 43 times. It is just one of those patterns that emerges when you have random numbers. But 44 will not be picked 43 times during the next 183 draws. You will see some-

thing else you didn't expect." The absence of winners in the last two draws may have been influenced by the fact that many of the numbers numbers relating to birthdays or the ages of their children.

If the jackpot is not won, and it rolls over to Wednesday, Camelot said that if there is no winner then, the prize money will be shared among those who picked five winning numbers.

Professor Epstein said that the more people who buy tickets, the greater the likelihood of a winner.

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Katz nodded thoughtfully, then fixed me with a sudden fearful look. You know what I look for in a female these days? A heartbeat and a full set of limbs. And that's just my starting point, you understand. I'm prepared to

Bill Bryson treks through the Appalachians with an old schoolfriend. Exclusive extracts from his hilarious new book start tomorrow

compromise on

limbs . . . 9

Freed paedophile will strike again, detectives warn

By Stewart Tendler, crime correspondent

A PAEDOPHILE convicted of killing 14-year-old Jason Swift was in hiding last night after warnings from detectives that he has been freed to strike again. Robert Oliver, now 42, was released after serving eight years of a 15-year sentence for the manslaughter of

Jason in 1985.

He is not subject to any supervision or recall because he was convicted before new regulations were introduced allowing checks to be kept on prisoners freed early.

Three other men, including Oliver's lover, are still prison for the crime.

Yesterday a Home Office official said Oliver, who has changed his name to Oliver Lee, will have to put his address on the new sex offenders' register.

He will also have to give any change of name as well as his original name. A friend who met him at a rendezvous near

Wandsworth Prison after his release said Oliver would register.

But the Home Office said

Jason's murderers, said: "I think almost certainly he will re-offend. It is all he has done most of his life."

But the Home Office said that if Oliver had only been convicted of murder or manslaughter he would not have been required to. The offences covered by the

Act were strictly limited and there is no separate offence of child murder or manslaughter. Oliver was also convicted of conspiracy to commit buggery, which brought him on to the register.

Yesterday police officers involved in the arrest of Oliver said they fear that the register will not prevent him from reoffending. One detective who tracked Oliver down said: "His main interest in life was abusing children and there is little chance of him being cured of it. He would represent a very serious menace."

cured of it. He would represent a very serious menace."

Ex-detective Roger Stoodley, who led the four-year hunt for co-defendent Sidney Cooke, 66, is freed next April. They have said they will live together after a form of wedding.

Cambridgeshire.

Oliver was sentenced to 15

years' imprisonment in 1989

after being convicted with

three others of killing Jason

during a homosexual orgy in

One member of the gang,

Leslie Bailey, was also convict-

ed of killing Barry Lewis, six,

from south London, and Mark

Tildesley, seven, from a Berk-

shire fairground. Bailey was later found strangled in his cell at Whitemoor prison in

Oliver had already been

jailed for five years in 1977 for

procuring three boys for acts

of gross indecency and an

indecent assault on a boy aged

an east London flat.



Toyah Willcox, who has submitted more than 20 planning applications

Actress's plan for folly is thwarted

By HELEN RUMBELO

VILLAGERS have blocked an attempt by Toyah Willcox the actress, and her husband Robert Fripp, the rock musician, to build an "overpowering" ornate folly at their 18th-century man-

Miss Willcox moved into Reddish House, a Grade II listed building in Wiltshire, in the early 1980s, and has made more than 20 planning applications. Her proposal for ornamental gates and a pavilion was rejected by Salisbury District Council after protests from local neonle.

people.

Planning officers had recommended that the application be accepted but, after Broadchalke Parish Council unanimously objected, the planning committee refused permission. David

Parker, its chairman said.

David Gilbert, vice-chairman of the parish council, said: "We just feel it is a



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Soldiers in Cyprus brawl case go free

FROM MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN LARNACA

soldiers accused of assaulting a group of English tourists in Cyprus walked free vesterday after the prosecution accepted they could not have been involved.

The prosecution is now also considering whether to postpone indefinitely the separate trial of another soldier on the same charges because of the high costs involved.

There is now the prospect of just one soldier remaining in the dock even though the court has already heard from several witnesses that eight off-duty soldiers were involved in the fight. The Army has never disputed this.

disputed this.

The incident outside a nightclub early last month highlighted the Army's apparent difficulty in maintaining discipline among off-duty soldiers on the island. Three Royal Greenjackets are serving life for sexually assaulting and battering to death the Danish

tour guide, Louise Jensen.
In the present case one tourist, Shane Bell, 23, had his jaw broken in three places and another. Barry Ford, needed 22 stitches to his face and head after he was beaten senseless. His girlfriend, Claire Har-

THREE of the five British bour, 22, a nursery school soldiers accused of assaulting nurse. suffered a badly a group of English tourists in bruised wrist.

They were appalled by yesterday's developments which signalled the virtual collapse of the overall prosecution case.

The prosecution decided to

withdraw assault charges against three of the accused as it became clear they had been mistakenly picked out of a police identity parade.

Even a witness for the prosecution provided alibis for the trio, testifying last month that he was with two of them in a hamburger bar at the time of the fight.

Legal sources said it was

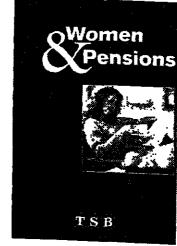
most unlikely anyone else would now be charged since the main witnesses had already failed to correctly identify three of the defendants.

The three soldiers to be

Volstencroft, 26, from the Manchester area, Steven Girvan, from Machester, and Tim Carter, from Liverpool, both 20.

The prosecution is considering whether to postpone indefinitely the trial of Stewart Spencer. He is to appear in court again next Tuesday with a fifth defendant, Roger Bell.

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lash is kin Northern sands. The next stop is Mach 1, writes Giles Whittell

WITH a formidable new land speed record under their belts and a smoothly-running 700 mph car, the *Thrust SSC* team plans to continue its bid to break the sound barrier on land with test runs resuming

Craig Breedlove, the American, was expected to re-enter the high-speed duel in Nevada's Black Rock Desert yesterday, but only with "engineering runs" at up to 500 mph. Meanwhile, Andy Green, the Thrust SSC driver, and the small army of technicians who maintain his twin-jet car took yesterday off after an afternoon signing autographs and an evening of celebration. By that time, congratulatory messages had been received from the Queen and 10 Downing Street.

Soldiersin

Ciprus bran

A compelling

and a

tate of sex. Well.

decent pension

Today, weather permitting, the team will return to its meticulous schedule of gradual acceleration towards the speed of sound. Richard Noble, the team's leader, has wowed to "get the job done" by cramming as many runs as necessary into whatever time remains before autumn rains.

He faces mounting debts on his return to England, since each run costs an estimated \$33,000 (£20,000) and he lacks an overall corporate sponsor—a fact that angered him even as champagne flowed.

"We've got people in borrowed cars and sleeping on borrowed mattresses," he said. "The corporate sponsors haven't come forward so far, and I don't expect them to."

and I don't expect them to."

Squadron Leader Green
may already have come closer
to the sound barrier than
expected. Speaking after his
record-breaking runs at an
average speed of 714mph on
Thursday, he said he could
feel trans-sonic shock waves
forming on the car and had
detected subtle handling dif-

ferences. His father Tony Green. 72, said yesterday he and his wife, Betty, had turned down an offer to watch the attempt. "We thought about going but we decided that Mum and Dad radiating nervousness would not do at all.

"He rang us afterwards and was bubbling over, euphoric. We know it is dangerous but it is what he wants to do and he is happy."

Thursday's second run at 728mph may have been at Mach 0.93 rather than the intended Mach 0.92 because of a following wind of 15mph. Ron Ayers, the project's aerodynamicist said.

Despite the presence of shock waves, the possibility of Thrust SSC losing its vaunted stability and becoming airborne as it passes through them remains remote, the team believes, since sensors indicate that the car's downforce on the track has remained constant.

"There were so many critics who said what we were trying to do was impossible, so there's an intellectual satisfaction in having got this far," added Mr Ayers, a former chief aerodynamicist at British Aerospace. He added, however, that "we're in a region of aerodynamics that changes very rapidly indeed".

Mr Ayers likened an assault on the sound barrier to "climbing a vertical mountain — every handhold and foothold must be checked". This approach makes a serious attempt on Mach I unlikely for the next few days.

The pursuit of the world land speed record began in France in 1898. The Briton, Malcolm Campbell, captured the record in 1924 in his Sunbeam Bluebird, travelling at 141mph.

Dunkirk spirit, page 2



Computers test the safety limits

By Nigel Hawkes science editor

THE designers of Thrust SSC are relying on computer modelling and a rocket-driven test of a scale model to ensure that it can exceed the speed of sound safely.

Nobody has ever done it before. In aircraft the shockwaves that build up close to the speed of sound can be dispersed in all directions, but on land there is a risk that by bouncing off the ground they could disturb the attitude of the car.

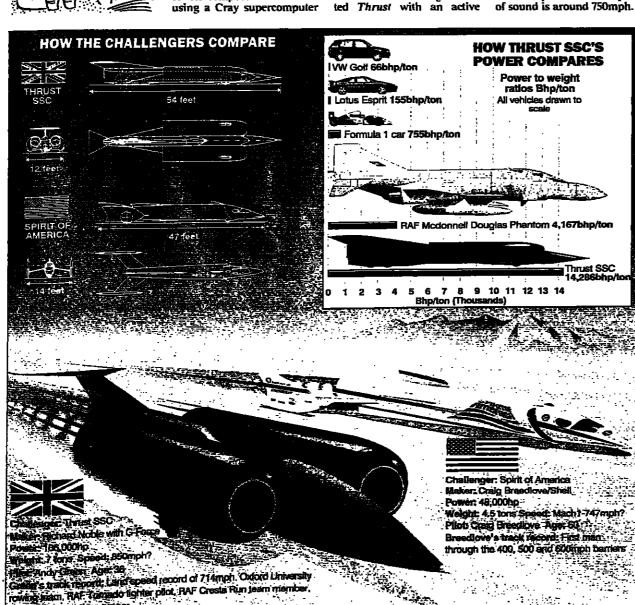
If that happened, it could fly up in the air or bury itself in the desert. Ron Ayers, the team's aerodynamicist, insisted on computer simulations using a Cray supercomputer before he was convinced that it could be done. The simulation was reassuring, but showed that, close to the speed of sound, forces tend to become volatile. "The problem is the forces and pressures acting on the car are constantly changing and so it sets new problems for the design of the car," Mr Ayers

To confirm the simulations, a model of *Thrust* was propelled on a sledge by a rocket motor at speeds of up to 820mph. This showed the levels of forces expected to act on *Thrust*.

To ensure that any out-ofbalance forces can neither flip the car upwards nor drive it downwards, the designers fitted Thrust with an active suspension system on the rear wheels which can be triggered by out-of-balance forces in a split second to alter the attitude of the car. If the forces tend to drive Thrust upwards, the suspension will move to increase downforce and prevent the car taking off.

The turbulence does not all hit the car at the same moment. Because air is flowing over it at different speeds, depending on the curvature of the body at that point, there is a large region in which airflows are a mixture of subsonic and supersonic.

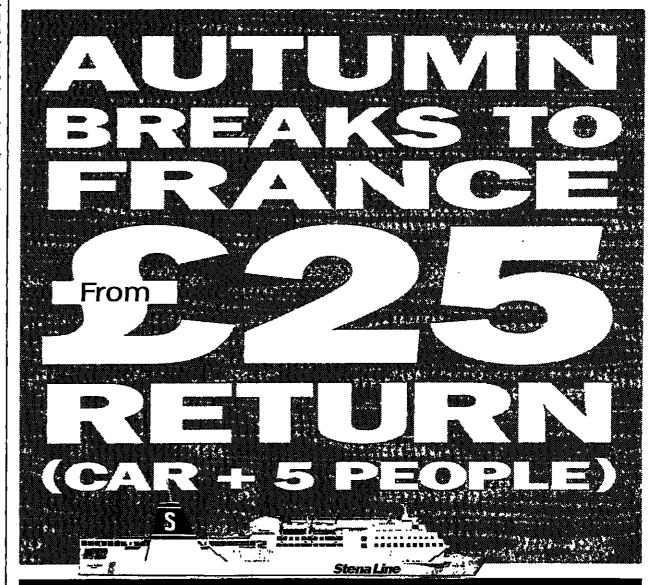
Andy Green, who is piloting Thrust, is already well into this region, and has reported evidence of it from his 700mph runs. The speed



Dover - Calais

Lincolnshire) (136): 11 mins, 24 secs

☐ Around the M25 (117): 9 mins, 48 secs.



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English vineyards finally bear fruit

nglish wine-makers are predicting one of the country's best vintages after a summer of almost perfect conditions for their vines. A hot August with just enough rain followed by this week's benign weather have brought grapes to the peak of perfection sev-eral weeks earlier than usual. Picking of early varieties has already begun in many of the hundreds of vineyards which have sprung up since the

But for around half the country's vineyards it will be a bitter harvest. The grapes may be of the highest quality but there are far too few of them.On the night of April 21 an icy hand brushed the southern half of Britain. The same blast of cold air wiped out the fruit harvest in Kent and frosted vines from Bordeaux to northern Italy.

In his study in Bradford-on-Avon, Wiltshire, Rowland Dunkley, a retired physicist turned winemaker, could only watch as sensors in his vineyard recorded the air temperature falling to -3.6C.

A couple of weeks later the daytime temperature was nudging 27C, encouraging his six acres of vines to put out their first delicate shoots from the buds which had survived. Then the frost returned. For four hours on the night of May

For those winegrowers who have battled through icy conditions and frosty receptions, 1997 could be a

good year, says Simon de Bruxelles

8 the temperature was lower gently rolling Gloucestershire

"The next morning the shoots were all fried brown," said Mr Dunkley. "We lost 75 per cent and instead of producing 8,000 bottles this year we will be lucky to

consolation is that those grapes we do have are extremely good quality with a high sugar content." The frost may have blessed those vineyards it did not destroy. If this year's vintage fulfils its promise. it may prove a turning point in the public percep-tion of English

make 2,000. The

wine. At the Three Choirs vineyard, the second largest in England, 30 pickers set to work this week bringing in the first of what promises to he the best harvest since it was established in 1973. Vines cover 70 acres of

6 In many countries they pick at night or shade vines

we have **9**

here ten years and the grapes are better this year than I've ever seen. We expect to produce around 200,000 bottles." wines have been dogged by misconception and prejuto reproduce dice since their revival began conditions more than 20 years

> far north to produce good quality grapes. According to Mr Fowke this is the opposite of the truth. Cooler conditions in England produce grapes with a better llavour than those grown in hotter climates. Britain produces some of

ago. The first and

most fundamental

the best top fruit in the world and it is the same with grapes," he said. "In fact, vines do so well here that we have to beware of over-cropping. We restrict the number of bunches of grapes to improve the quality and also the leaf growth because the plant tends to put its energy into greenery rather than fruit.

The relatively cool summers mean that fruit doesn't cook on the vine and in fact in many countries they will pick at night or shade the vines to reproduce exactly the conditions we have here.

Choosing the right variety of vine is crucial and most vineyards grow several to spread the risk and the chance of the harvest being disrupted by the

Ithough England is unlikely ever to pro-duce the finest quality red wines, because the grapes simply won't ripen, many vineyards are now making top-quality sparkling wines and international awards won by Three Choirs and other English vineyards are proof of their success in making light, fruity white

The quality may rival their counterparts from the New World as well as the old but the tiny quantities mean they are always likely to be in short supply.

In the Middle Ages, Eng-land was covered with vineyards, many attached to monasteries. The Domesday Book recorded 12 in Somerset alone. But the acquisition of Bordeaux through the marriage of Henry II to Eleanor of Aquitaine in 1152 provided a cheap alternative supply. Those monks who did toil on in the vineyards saw the fruits of their labours destroyed when Henry VIII dissolved the monasteries. The revival began with growers such as Mr Dunkley, who planted vines in his garden in Chorley Wood as an experiment in the mid-1960s. He bought his



Fowkes: "I have been here ten years and the grapes are better this year than ever"

JANE MACQUITTY'S TOP FIVE

DESPITE the recent blast of sunshine, England's 1997 wine crop will not prove to be the vintage of the century unless this mild spell continues into October when the last grapes are picked. The last really good English and. to be precise. Welsh vintage. was 1995. That was the freak year when a sweltering August led to a surprisingly sunny autumn and England's '95s were accordingly superb. 1989 was another such English annus mirabilis. Apart from the BBC.

or "blasted British climate". as one English vigneron put it, the other rub that the 1.900 acres of English and Welsh grapes suffer is the usual technologically inept English winemaker. Most grapes are sent away to one of 150-odd commercial wineries and the end result reeks of classic winemaking faults such as searingly high acidity. oxidation and hydrogen sulphide, the nasty smell associated with rotten eggs. The good news, owing to imported expertise. most notably in the shape of the Australian-trained John Worontschak, who makes the Thames Valley wines and consults for dozens of other wineries. is that England's wines are improving dramatically with every vintage.

Today what you can xpect from a decent English wine is not the cloying pseudo-Germanic white of yesteryear but a

unique northern style of our own: a fresh, delicate, floral, crisp, yet grapey style. Here are my top five in order of excellence.

l: 1993 Thames Valley Vineyards Fume (Thresher, Wine Rack, Bottoms Up. £6.89: Majestic Wine Warehouses, £8.99). Rich. golden, dry white with a smokey-oaky scent and floral palate that indicates the wine has been aged

2: 1995 Denbies Late Harvest (half bottle, Oddbins and Denbies. London Road, Surrey, £5.99). A rare treat: an English dessert wine made from late ha. vested, noble rot-affected grapes just like all the great sweet wines of the world.

3: 1996 Chapel Down Bacchus (Wine Cellar. Berkeley Wines, £6.49). The palate here is so verdantly curranty that many will mistake this for a French sauvignon blanc.

4: 1995 Beenleigh Cabernet Sauvignon-Merlot (from Beenleigh, Sharpham House. Ashprington, Totnes, Devon, El4.99). An English red made from classic Bordeaux grapes. Beenleigh's red is the best we have made yet.

5: 1995 Northbrook Springs (Majestic Wine Warehouse, £4,99), A cracking English aperitif.

Dunkley: lost 75 per cent of crop to frost

UK WINE IN A BOX

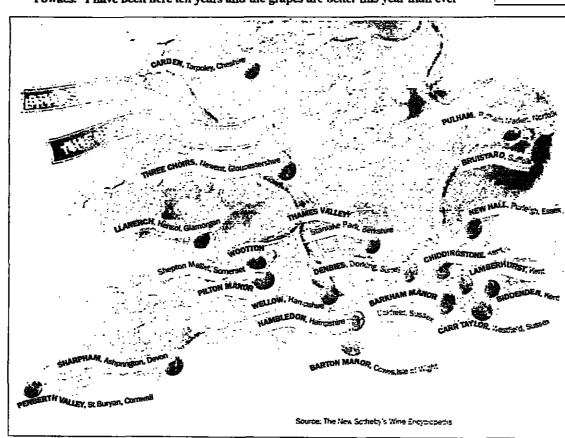
Vineyards in England and Wales 413

1996 production...... 2.396,000 litres

Bottles per acre

Acres under vine....

Duty per bottle..... Percentage of UK market



Wiltshire vineyard when he retired ten years ago and, like many English winemakers, is virtually a one man band.

For years they struggled on, hamstrung by strict EU regulations drawn up for the producers on the Continent which meant their wine never got the recognition they felt it

Even the introduction of new English Vineyard Quality Wine standards is only a partial help as it does not permit the use of hybrid

grapes such as Seyval Blanc which have produced some of the country's finest wines.

Many of the early producers, lacking experience, relied on using hardy, high-yielding varieties such as Müller-Thurgau or Reichensteiner which produced reliable if uninspiring German-style wines. Today. Three Choirs grows 16 varieties, from Pinot Noir to the latest hybrids, developed especially for the English climate, such as Orion and Phoenix, and it looks to New

Zealand rather than Germany for inspiration. The other prejudice English winemakers have to overcome is price. Mr Fowke said: "People think that we are expensive and it is true that English wines are not the cheapest on the shelves but what they offer is value for

money. You might be paying £4 or £5 a bottle but you are

getting an estate-bottled quali-

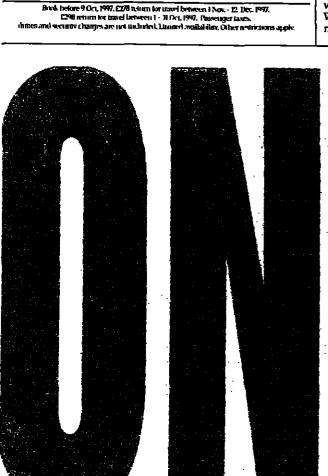
ty wine." This year, for the first time, English wines are widely available in supermarkets.

Tesco has even introduced a policy of offering regional wines. But many small producers such as Mr Dunkley simply don't produce enough to make it viable for the

supermarket buyers. I could sell to a supermarket but they would probably want a minimum of 500 cases, which might be my entire production for the year," he said. "I sell a lot to personal visitors to the vineyard and also through hotels and restaurants within a 15 to 20 miles

radius." For those with a few acres of sheltered. south-facing, well-drained land who would like to set up a vineyard as a small business, Mr Dunkley has one word of advice: "Don't".

"It is not a very good way of investing your capital, he said. There is a very substantial outlay on equipment you might only use three days a year and not very much re-turn. I do it because I enjoy it. not because it will make me



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RSTI

mined to demonise the beliefs and practices of Islam, and this is causing enormous re-sentment in Saudi Arabia, the Saudi Ambassador to London said yesterday. He did not mind criticism of his country. he said, but he resented the way that the British press had denounced the whole concept of Islamic justice.

In an attempt to defuse the political fallout, he said no one in his Government had taken offence at the remarks by Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, that the sentence on one of the nurses was unacceptable; he was merely defending British interests.

"I have no problem with anyone criticising Saudi Ara-bia. Dr Ghazi al-Gosaibi said. "But I have a lot of problems with people insulting Islam, because Islam is a divine revelation. And a lot of hope in the heat of the moment - were offensive not just to Saudi Arabia but to many

The ambassador is at the



The Saudi Ambassador tells Michael Binyon he resents a billion Muslims' religion being insulted over the nurses

attempts to ensure that neither of the two women is flogged or beheaded. From the start of the case, he has been in constant touch with Andrew Green, the British Ambassador in Riyadh, with the Foreign Office and with the senior members of the House of Saud who, under Saudi law, have

the final word on clemency.

One of his country's leading intellectuals — with degrees from the Universities of London. Cairo and Southern California - Dr al-Gosaibi is uniquely placed to understand the Western mind and to interpret what he admits is still a conservative, secret and deeply religious society. Yesterday, relaxed and affa-

ble, he told The Times that he was convinced the case would be resolved without damage to

Riyadh signs UN ban on cruelty

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

AS THE sentence of 500 lashes was pronounced on the British nurse Lucille Mc-Lauchlan, Saudi Arabia was quietly joining a United Na-tions convention outlawing cruel, inhuman or degrading" punishment.
The UN reported on Wed-

nesday that it had acceded to the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, adopted by the UN General Assembly in 1984 and in force

three years later. Human rights experts say McLauchlan's sentence, and the possible beheading of Deborah Parry, would violate the convention, although Saudi Arabia usually enters a

reservation requiring that no UN treaty provision coutravenes Islamic law.

"Our view is that lashing as it is applied in Saudi Arabia does constitute torture, not simply cruel and unusual punishment, because it is so harsh and does draw blood and inflict pain," Clarisa Bencomo, a researcher for Human Rights Watch in New York, said.

The group has asked King Fahd not to ratify the sentences and to investigate the trial procedure.

The convention establishes the UN Committee Against Torture. which can receive complaints from signatory states about breaches by other treaty members.

alliances or good relations. And he repeated his insistence that the death penalty would

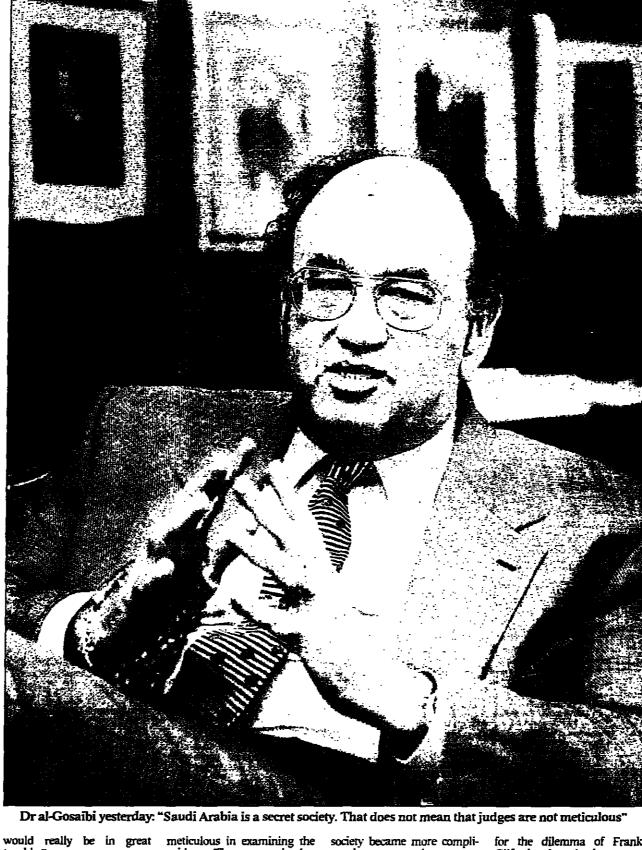
not be enforced. He did not hide his worries that screaming tabloid headlines were making things more difficult. Indiscriminate use of the words "primitive" or "barbaric" were deeply offensive, he said. There were about a billion Muslims in the world. Not every one took the Koran literally; but the vast majority did. and the teachings on sin and on capital

punishment were explicit. "Some religions chose to water down their teaching and have it just as a private belief. Others did not, and take it as the literal word of God.

"I was hoping, while this debate is going on, that it would be kept in the confines of consular limits. This is a case of two British subjects accused of a crime in Saudi Arabia, and justice will take its course through due process. It happens here to Saudis. It happens to all citizens living abroad. We should be very careful not to insult the sensitivities of other people."

Mr Cook, he insisted, had not done that: he had a job to do to defend British interests, and that is what he had done. "I don't find anything offensive in what he said."

Dr al-Gosaibi, a former minister and political scientist who has published 40 books, saw dangers of a self-fulfilling clash of cultures. He cited telling examples of Western hypocrisy and failings. He ranged across the torrent of argument over "fundamentalist" Islam and political extremism. But he returned to what he called dispassionate objective analysis. "Some Saudis may say, 'Why did God destroy Sodom and Gomorrah and save Paris and London? If we start exchanging this kind of 'dialogue', we



trouble." To criticism that the trial was not open nor the evidence published, he noted wryly that virtually nothing was conducted in public in the desert kingdom. People did not speak about their wives or their illnesses. This is a secret society." But that did not mean that the judges were not

evidence. They were trained to take an adversarial approach to the police, not simply to accept police evidence or confessions. Otherwise, evidence could be fabricated and there would be no justice. Saudis were satisfied their system served them well.

He admitted that procedures were evolving, as Saudi

cated. A generation ago a judge might deliver 20 judgments as he walked from his house to the mosque. Now there were three-man courts. five-member appeal courts, a supreme council and review by the King.

He foresaw more open proceedings - but not under pressure from the West, "If we start catering to every legal whim we could end up with

He denied that the tough sentence was an attempt to show dissident hardline opinion that Westerners were not treated any differently; any sensitive murder case was automatically reviewed, with

appeals for clemency. And, as he noted with the dry wit that darts between all his arguments, "our judges do not read the tabloids". Dr al-Gosaibi had only sympathy

Gilford, the dead nurse's brother. "He has been hounded and subjected to daily harassment. I really pray that he should be given some space to think it over. He was modest about his

own role, wincing at the "unfortunate" fact that news of the case came out as he was hosting Saudi national day. with warriors wielding their swords in traditional display embassy. He noted that "diplomats tread carefully, where others rush in." But "all our iobs are about damage

limitation" And on that, he was optimistic. There was no crisis in Anglo-Saudi relations; trade would not be affected; justice would be done to the nurses.

> Simon Jenkins, page 22 Letters, page 23

NEWS IN BRIEF Asylum seekers' amnesty

jected calls for an amnesty for asylum seekers to cut the backlog of 50,000 applicants waiting to set-

refused

tle in Britain. Amnesty International had accused the Government of not doing enough to tackle outstanding cases. Mike O'Brien, the Home Office Minister for immigration, said the Government was committed to reducing the back-log but said there would be no "desperate mea-sures". He told Radio 4's Today that a blanket amnesty would encourage abuse of the system.

Boy killed

An eight-year-old boy died after falling from a borse chestnut tree that he had climbed to gather conkers near his bome in Wigan. Marc Abbott hit his head on the pavement and died in hospital.

Blast memorial

A memorial was unveiled in Dublin to 33 people who died in bombings in the city and the Irish border town of Monaghan on one night in 1974. The bombs were blamed on loyalist terrorists.

Glider death

A woman died after her motorised glider crashed and burst into flames. The incident happened shortly after take-off from North Weald airfield, Essex. The woman, aged 55, died at the scene.

Bodies charge

A sculptor and another man appeared before Horseferry Road Magistrates' Court accused of stealing body parts from the Royal College of Sur-geons. They were bailed to December 11.

Ferry arrests

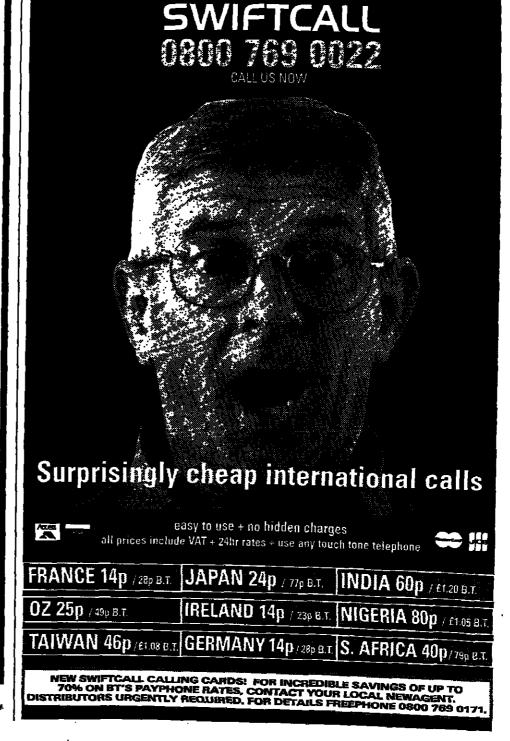
Police in Hull arrested 12 Dutch passengers on board a ferry after fights broke out during the journey from Rotterdam. One man was detained in Hull Royal Infirmary with facial injuries.

Piped aboard

Three pipes — 375 gallons of top quality port.
 ordered by Admiral Nelson shortly before he left for the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805, were sold for £3,200 at Ayisham, Norfolk. yesterday.



MONDAY-THURSDAY 8AM-8PM • FRIDAY 8AM-9PM • SATURDAY 8AM-8PM • SUNDAY 10AM-4PM



And they're buying a Steinway to heaven



A piano decorated by Queen Victoria's cabinet makers and inscribed with the signatures of famous composers should fetch £800,000, writes Dalya Alberge



The neo-classical decoration of the piano took four years to complete; the carved legs with eagle-winged lions were inspired by a Pompeian marble table

A STEINWAY admired by the composer Sir Arthur Sullivan and said to be the most artistic piano ever produced is expected to fetch £800,000 at

The 1885 neo-classical masterpiece holds the record price for any piano sold. It was decorated by two leading 19th-century artists and the furniture makers to Queen

Victoria. Leading musicians of the day, as well as society figures, attended glittering soirées: some, including Sir Arthur and Richard Rodgers, the composer of The Sound of Music, left their signatures on the inside of the piano lid.

Henry Marquand, the American philanthropist, collector and founding president of the Metropolitan Museum

of Art in New York, commissioned Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema to direct its decoration. Alma-Tadema, one of the most fashionable artists of the period, was given a "limitless budget" to decorate the music room of Marquand's Madison Avenue mansion.

The design features spectacularly ornate inlay in mother-of-pearl, coral and ivory with classical motifs figures such as the muses, Apollo and Bacchus. sprigs, tendrils of Roman acanthus, beaded mouldings and a Grecian lyre are also represented. Above its keyboard is an

exquisitely delicate panel, by Sir Edward Poynter, fashioned as a tablet of an ancient festival. Poynter once described the instrument as "the most beautiful piece of work. both for the design and the workmanship, that I ever saw ... in fact, I do not believe that

anything has ever been done

to equal it". Christie's, which will sell it on November 7, describe it as a masterpiece of 19th-century neo-classicism . . . the most piano ever produced".

It took Queen Victoria's cabinet makers and upholsterers, Messrs Johnstone, Norman & Co, four years to embellish the Steinway: they displayed it in 1885 in their Bond Street showroom and the Prince and Princess of Wales were the first to see it. Even the colour scheme picked up on Grecian vases. Long since the Madison Ave-

nue building was demolished. a painting the muses of sacred and epic poetry created by Frederic Leighton for the ceiling has been lost and other objects have been dispersed around the world: the Victoria & Albert Museum has a pair of chairs.

The piano, positioned under it, is inlaid with ribbontied wreaths bearing the Grecian names of Apollo and the Muses of artistic inspiration. Elaborately carved legs with eagle-winged lions were sacred to Apollo and were inspired by a Pompeian marble table. Greek vases are scattered around the room.

The record price fetched in 1980 was £177,272. The private collector later lent it to the Boston Museum of Fine Arts from 1986 to 1995



Flag found by Scott was relic of rival expedition

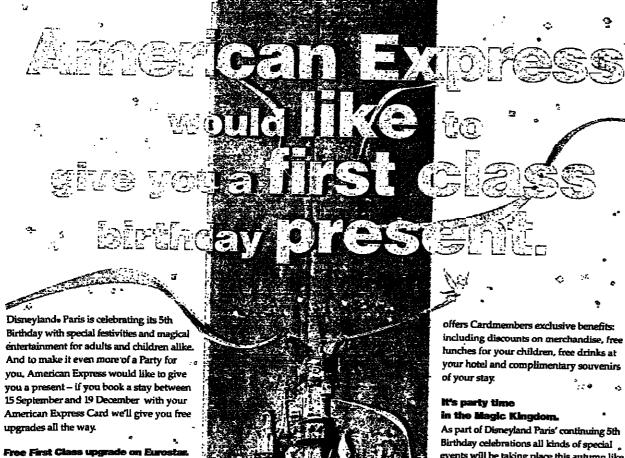
A WHITE Ensign found by Captain Scott on a beach in Antarctica in 1902 sold for £28,750 at Christie's in London yesterday (John Vincent writes).

The flag, picked up by Robert Falcon Scott during his first expedition, in Discovery, had been expected to fetch no more than £5,000. It was a relic of Carsten Borchgrevink's British Antarctic Expedition of 1898-99, the first expedition ever to winter on the inpitable Autarctic mainland.

Borchgrevink and nine explorers were landed by the Southern Cross in February 1899. One man died in October and the ship returned in late Jannary 1900 to collect the survivors.

tors, in January 1902, and the Discovery's second surgeon, Edward Wilson, noted: "The litter around the huts was very interesting and the waste excessive. The huts looked like the centre of a rubbish heap."

In the same sale, a Union Jack that accompanied Sir Ernest Shackleton on his last expedition fetched £14,950. The flag was presented to him by George V in September 1921, only months before the explorer's death on January 5, 1922. The King gave the flag to Shackleton before he set out in the Quest on his fourth expedition to the Antarctic.



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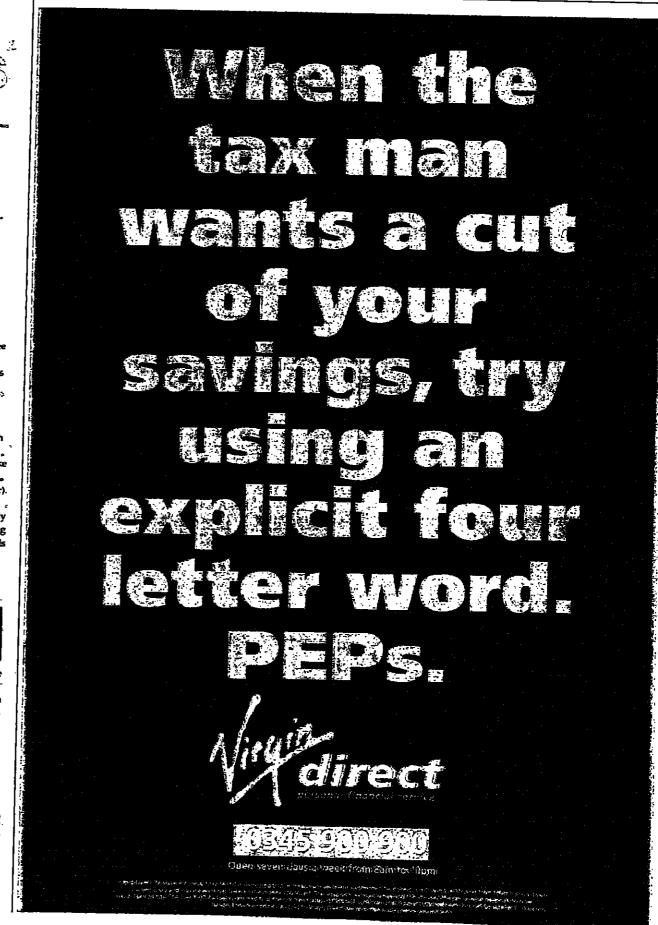
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12 HOME NEWS

When life at the top is just not enough

Alexandra Frean on why career women quit their jobs for family

PROFESSIONAL women in their forties and fifties are leaving high-powered careers and "downshifting" in a quest for greater satisfaction.

Contrary to the popular perception that the careers of businesswomen take off once they achieve mid-life maturity and their children leave home, new research from Cambridge University shows that this is precisely the time when many decide to step off the career ladder, start their own comnanies or work part time.

Ambitious women in their

ing to make personal sacrifices in order to achieve career advancement, believing that once they have reached a certain level of promotion, and once their children are older, the pressures of home and career will diminish and they will find it easier to cope with the stresses of holding down a high-powered job in maledominated environments.

But according to Dr Terri Apter, a social psychologist and fellow of Clare Hall. Cambridge, many women, particularly those working in

sions, simply find that the pressure never eases off, even

after two decades. When they reach secure positions at the age of 40 and 45, they look back and realise that the trophies of their professional advancement have been achieved at too high a price. They decide they want more personal fulfilment from life," she said.

The findings come after the decision of Brenda Barnes, 43, to quit her job as chief executive of PepsiCo's huge successful North American arm to spend more time with her

working her way up the corporate ladder. Dr Apter's research, which was presented at the Pennell initiative conference on worn-

children. She spent 22 years

en's health organised by the University of Manchester and held in London yesterday, identifies four types of women traditionalists, innovators. expansive women and protesters - who experience these

changes in different ways. Dr Apter, who based her research on interviews with 80 British and American women. believes that the exodus of middle-aged women from professional life is due to psychological and sociological factors and cannot just be accounted for by the fact that many undergo mood changes when they reach the menopause.

This is not a case of women dropping out because they can't hack it. It is about women deciding to make choices for themselves. In midlife many become determined to make a new start - some set up their own companies, others cut back their hours or switch to new jobs," she said. Her findings could have far-

reaching implications for businesses as they compete in a changing commercial world. Companies are beginning to realise that they will not be able to sustain a varied and valued pool of experienced and highly qualified senior

The trophies of women's professional advancement are achieved at too high a price, says Dr Terri Apter

managers if top women continue to leave before they have achieved their full potential.

Val Hammond, chief executive of the Roffey Park management institutute in Horsham, West Sussex, said although successful professional men and women reassessed their lives in their forties, the experiences of women were often more complex.

A lot of women say. Well I'm never going to get to the very top, so continuing here seems meaningless. It is a

great loss to companies." she said. Ms. Hammond noted that even where women were offered the very top job in a company, they were more likely than men to turn it down. "Being offered the job is often enough for women because it proves that they could do it and that's all they need, she said.

Campaigners for women's equality are equally concerned that companies will never achieve the critical mass of

is needed to change work cultures if the exodus of female continues. Shiela bosses Diplock director of the Fawcett Society, which campaigns for women's equality. said: Rather than fight to change the culture, women on the whole are saying. This is too much like hard work. It's more pleasurable to go off and

make a different life'." Claire Walmsley, managing director of Boxclever, a communications training com-pany, is typical of the

professional women leaving high-powered jobs in big com panies to set up on their own Ms Walmsley, 52, left the BBC to set up her company in 1990.

"It is easy to get demoralised within a large organisation.' she said. You have to light your corner all the time, rather than just get on with the job. I felt that my talents were not being used properly at the BBC. Now they are and I am much happier.

FOUR TYPES OF WOMEN AND THEIR ATTITUDES TO WORK

Traditionalists: identify themselves primarily as wives and mothers and believe that their family's needs take priority. Today they often feel marginalised, outmoded,

scured by high-profile images of career women. ■ Innovators: deliberately set out to be new career women, pioneers in a man's world. Many have children but work hard to change the patterns of marriage and

At work, many tone down anything that is obviously female about them.

Most stick with their careers throughout the most pressured domestic times, but at midlife their career progress often

As husbands get promoted and children leave home. they scale down their professional commitments so that they can work in a less pressured

feel that they lived the first decades of adulthood in a narrow corridor, blocked through lack of confidence and confined by lack of skill or education or

qualify for new types of Protesters: try to after being constrained

They see midlife as an

horizons and set new

goals. Some go back to

school, or to work, or to

opportunity to expand their

make up for lost ground by responsibilities in early adulthood, such as being a teenage mother, looking after sick parents.

Dr Apter's research was based on in-depth interviews with 80 women in the US and the UK aged between 40 and 55. They were interviewed four times be-tween 1990 and 1994 and again

Why single life does not begin at fifty

IT MAY have been a tough week for Edwina Currie, the former Tory MP turned novelist turned single 50-something, but the message from Britain's main groups for di-vorced men and women is that she should get used to it.

Life for women who divorce over the age of 45. they say, can be very tough, even for those cushioned - like Mrs

Currie - by wealth. When she announced on Monday that she was separating from Ray, her husband of instantly accused of timing her announcement to coincide with the start of a publicity campaign for her latest book. She's Leaving Home.

Mrs Currie may however, end up looking back on this period, when her face is in the papers and her mobile telephone ringing off the hook,

with something like affection.
According to divorce councillors, the majority of women who separate from their husbands at 50 find their lives lonelier and much harder to rebuild than those who di-

vorce at a younger age. Figures from the Office for National Statistics for 1995 show that, whereas 18.6 women in every 1.000 divorce between the ages of 35 and 44, only five in every 1,000 divorce

Catherine Lee, a councillor for Dignity, an organisation for men and women who find themselves cheated on or divorced. says: "The classic model for trouble in married couples over 45 is for the man to run off with a younge woman when he hits middle age and needs reassurance that he is still attractive.

"For a woman to separate from her husband at that age is much rarer and they are consequently lonelier. "It is not so much adultery

Breaking up is so tion end up separating is that their husbands find their sucvery hard to do.

Philip Delves **Broughton** finds

the older you are the tougher it is

that provokes women to sepabehaviour at home becomes unbearable." After 45. seems, the threshold for "unbearable" moves much higher

making divorce less likely. Julia Cole, a spokeswoman for Relate. Britain's biggest divorce counselling service, says: "In cases of separation over 45, there is more likely than not someone else involved. It may not be the cause of the separation but will very

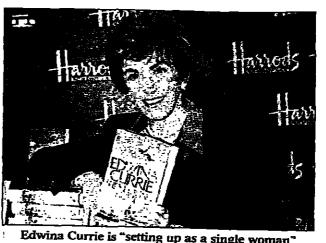
often be a symptom. Sheila Diplock, the director of the Fawcett Foundation, which campaigns for equality between men and women says that one reason successful women of a certain generacess hard to take.

For men over a certain age, when they come home they want to talk about their work. Thev have no interest in listening to their wife talking about her work. They start to put her down and, in time, communication between a

couple falls apart." Gillian Gee, 57, separated from her diplomat husband ten years ago. She now works for Oxfam but in the wake of and social life difficult.

"For some reason, divorced or widowed men are always being set up by their female friends with potential new partners. Separated women over 50 become like widows and the invitations dry up." One woman who works with Mrs Currie says: "Edwina is happier now. Leaving her husband is about her settling down. She has moved on from being an MP and is cutting all kinds of strings and setting up as a single woman living alone

It is a fine picture: Edwina Currie as the post-menopausal Bridget Junes.



Rabbi says inequality threatens Jewish future

A RABBI has given warning of the demise of Anglo-Jewry if its Orthodox wing does not compromise what she says are its sexist ways. Rabbi Jacqueline Tabick

said that women rabbis. whose status is not accepted by the Orthodox, encountered prejudice both comic and sinister. In an address to the Anglo-Jewish Association on Wednesday, Rabbi Tabick risked reopening the rift be-tween Orthodox and Progressive Jewry that followed the death last year of the renowned Reform Jewish leader. Rabbi Hugo Gryn.

Some members of the congregation at the West London Synagogue, where Rabbi Tabick has applied to succeed Dr Gryn as senior rabbi, believe that mixed feelings surrounding her application BY HELEN RUMBELOW

are the result of prejudice. Rabbi Tabick, an associate rabbi at the synagogue and acting leader, is competing with five men for leadership of the country's biggest Re-

form synagogue. Dr Richard Stone, a member of the rabbinic appointments committee, said the synagogue had drawn up a shortlist of six candidates, including Rabbi Tabick. The prospect that the senior rabbi of the largest synagogue in Britain could be a woman awakens a lot of issues people have about equality," he said. There are a whole lot of things that need to be

Rabbi Tahick said: "The Torah is written by men for men in such a way as to contain the power of women."

very unfair." Referring to the difficulties encountered by 'chained women" - wives who cannot obtain a get (a divorce in Jewish law). Rabbi Tabick said: "It's dreadful that we have to go to English law to solve the problem of inequality in Jew-

Some young women in the audience disagreed with Dr Tabick, arguing that being too open would lead to the end of Judaism.

ish law.'

I understand being scared of freedom." Rabbi Tabick countered, "but to be part of the world you have to grow up, just like Adam and Eve."
Rabbi Tabick became Britain's first woman rabbi in 1975, a year before Julia

Neuberger, who was Britain's first woman rabbi to have a



On Sunday 31st August 1997, a light went out over Britain. A life that had touched so many people and so many charities the world over was cut tragically and suddenly short.

We join with the nation in giving thanks for the courage, dedication and boundless love which brought such comfort and joy to those most in need. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the many millions who mourn the loss of a young woman whose beauty and compassion will forever remain in our hearts.

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Produced on fine porcelain, banded in 22-carat gold, 'Diana' is released in support of the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund, Kensington Palace.

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In addition, The Bradford Exchange will make a further donation to ensure that at least £10.00 will be given to the Fund in your name - your own personal contribution, so that the light of Diana's compassion and dedication will continue to shine across the world.

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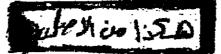
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Cycling to work from Richmond - via Hell

Damian Whitworth discovers the untold perils of riding furiously on the highway



Cycling nervously: our man in the saddle

pedal power. Anthony Adams, 24, was fined under a 150-year-old law for cycling "furiously" through Cambridge and suddenly the ur-

People who ride their bicycles through towns are passionate about cycling. So are many of those who have to share the road with them, for rather different reasons.

In the wake of the case of Mr Adams (who may go to jail if he continues to exercise in such a fashion), the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents warned that careless cycling was likely to become of increasing concern if efforts to cut the number of cars on the road resulted in more cyclists. The cycling lobby, meanwhile, wants more bicycles on the road.

Just how uneasy is the relationship between pedalers and other

more than my fair share of bikes into the saddle. From where I live in Richmond, southwest London, to and people parting company with horrible results," he said grimly. The Times office in Wapping, East

to imagine a more unpleasant experience than making the jour-ney on a bicycle, which I did for the first time this week. The ride, which took two hours, was so miserable that my bicycle is still in the office. waiting until I can face the prospect of making the return trip.

The first three minutes of spinning across Richmond Green were blissful. The pleasure ended on the A316. I stopped and pulled off the road at some traffic lights to adjust my helmet. A policeman drew up on his motorbike, we exchanged pleasantries and I made a quip about my ordeal ahead. The seen

London, is about 12 miles. It is hard

"All sides are to blame. Sometimes cars, pedestrians, cyclists. But sadly the roads are just not made for the traffic and the most vulnerable get hit. Cyclists are the most

Cheering stuff. My route took me through the old, winding streets of Barnes where the traffic crawled bumper to bumper and there was barely room to stay on the road. This was after the rush hour but, not for the last time, I hopped off onto the pavement. "You know you shouldn't be on the pavement, remonstrated one woman who was wheeling her baby son in his pushchair. I dismounted, chastened. "You know I was nearly hit

by a kid on a bike the other day. He came out of the line at traffic lights and cut over the crossing, clipped the pushchair." Hers was the politest reprimand I had all day.

By the time I crossed Putney Bridge I had been cut up several times by buses, lorries and taxis

and was going at a cautious speed that was probably putting me in even greater danger. Zipping onto Cheyne Walk I clipped the wing mirror of a black, open-topped BMW. The owner was not under-standing. "You ****** ! You shouldn't be on the road, people like you. ******* cyclists!"

I replied in similar vernacular but, as a moped rider in front of me crunched into the bumper of a car. I secretly felt the man in the BMW was right: it was madness.

Particularly mad were the duo on racing bikes, clad in pink lycra, who overtook me as I was pulling around a parked car. The cycling lobby make great play of the lunacies of motorists but some cyclists - in their own minds competing with Chris Boardman can be equally unthinking. The worst of the fanatical cyclists are often the macho cycle couriers. One raced past me on the approach to Vauxhall Bridge in a manner that could only be described as "furious".

Heading south of the river over Westminster Bridge in search of a quieter route i came across the opposite extreme. An outlandishly dressed trio on huge tricycles towing trailers wobbled ahead so slowly it was difficult, bringing up

riverside path along the south bank of the Thames provided little relief. No more cars, instead pedestrians and in particular joggers who weaved all over the place and then had the temerity to issue curses because I didn't look where they were going for them. Three, clearly very junior, city wideboys were even more unpleasant. My red helmet apparently qualified me for being a total *******.

By the time I arrived at the Southwark headquarters of the London Cycling Campaign I was not only late, saddle-sore, dripping with sweat and with a face and shirt collar smudged with grime, but convinced that anyone who regularly cycles in central London must be insane, or at very least a few spokes short of a wheel,

Designer

babies

warning

to parents

By Nigel Hawkes SCIENCE EDITOR

PARENTS may be able to choose their baby's eye colour. or to programme out hereditary baldness within our lifetime", the scientist behind Dolly, the cloned sheep, said

Dr lan Wilmut of the Roslin

Research Institute in Edin-burgh said that there was

already a significant minor-

ity of people" — mainly in the

US — willing to consider exploiting such cosmetic possibilities.

Speaking at the British Vet-

erinary Association's annual

congress in Edinburgh, Dr

Wilmut said the strong ethical

climate which surrounded is-

sues of reproduction in

Europe, Asia and Australasia

Calling for an ethical debate

on the use of the new technol-

ogies, he said they offered a cure for children with genetic

defects but also led to the

possibility of heading down

"the slippery slope" towards designer children. "It is impor-

tant for science to think about

these very difficult ethical

dilemmas soon, because some

to think about it," he said.

did not exist in the US.

Salvation Army goes to war over rags riches

OXFAM and the Salvation Army are at war over sites for clothes recycling banks.

The Salvation Army is furious after being told that it will have to hand over 77 of its locations around Devon to the Third World charity.

Devon County Council asked the Salvation Army to move its recycling bins from the sites after Oxfam offered ten times more money when they were put out to tender.

The Salvation Army has accused Oxfam of "poaching", and says the move will lead to a major drop in its income from Devon, into which it pumps around £2.75million year from national funds. It fears owners of private sites on which it also has clothes banks, such as supermarkets, may also come. under pressure to take Oxfam banks instead of theirs.

Devon County Council district recycling committee has agreed a three-year contract with Oxfam at 77 sites, mainly at district council-operated car parks, in the first deal of its kind under the competitive tendering process.

Oxfam is believed to have agreed a EIOI per ton fee for the contract, in stark contrast with the £8 per ton previously paid by the Salvation Army.

Salvation Army recycling co-ordinator Garth Ward has accused Oxfam of poaching sites which had been running successfully for six years in

Devon. He has written to all councillors in the country asking them to prevent his charity from being ordered off council-owned land.

He said money raised by the recycling banks helps fund facilities such as the Salvation Army hostel for the homeless

Devonport, Plymouth, which has recently undergone a El million refurbishment. "We initiated this recycling idea in 1991, and we helped the Department of the Environment conduct feasibility studies into the whole clothing recycling idea. I think most people think we have offered an exemplary service.

"I really think that most people see us as the natural choice for this type of operation. We are domestic, and not global - although we do send clothes abroad. To me it would make more sense for us to work together rather than them poaching our sites."

But Oxfam spokeswoman Anne Bissell denied the charity was poaching. "Everyone was invited to tender for the 77 sites and we were successful."

Shapland, chairman of the recycling committee. said: "The Salvation Army, with whom we have had an informal agreement for a number of years, was invited to tender for this contract and understand disappointment."

back jail industries' Councillor Marguerite

> JATL workshops and farms should be freed from archaic Treasury rules and regulations that hold back attempts to generate income, the Chief Inspector of Prisons said yesterday.

Sir David Ramsbotham said prison industries should be allowed to run as profit-making enterprises rather than paying back any infunds. He said that at Ford Open Prison in West

Sussex, which has work-shops making products from security gates to demonstration dummies for the Fire Service, work opportunities had been lost

because of the rules. Allowing a more entrepreneurial approach would encourage prison governors and staff to develop more imaginative work opportunities and do much to alleviate unemploy

THE TIMES/DILLONS FORUM

An evening with

Stephen Fry

Moab is my Washpot (Hutchinson, £16.99) will be held a

the Institute of Education, 20 Bedford Way. London WCI at 7.30pm. Tickets are £10 (concessions £7.50), which includes £2 off the price of the book. There will also be an opportunity for the audience to ask questions. Subject to demand this event will be interpreted in sign language.

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STEPHEN Fry, whose public face is internationally well known, reveals his private face in this Times/Dillons forum, on Tuesday October 7. He will be in conversation with Nicholas Wapshott. The discussion will cover his days at boarding school, the beatings he survived, the love he felt, the misery he suffered, his time in prison and his subsequent highly successful carrer. The forum.

subsequent highly successful career. The forum, which marks the publication of his autobiography,







URGENT APPEAL FOR AID

For the third consecutive year the harvest in North Korea has been ruined by devastating floods. Many homes have been destroyed and millions of people face starvation. Already huge numbers of children are barely surviving on a diet of tree bark, grass and roots. The floods have also severely damaged the nation's health system leaving it ill-equipped to deal with malnourished and suffering children.

The people of North Korea are in desperate need. The Red Cross is organising emergency supplies of food to vulnerable groups and medical equipment to the failing

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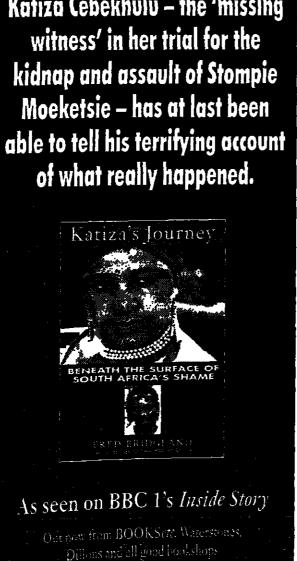
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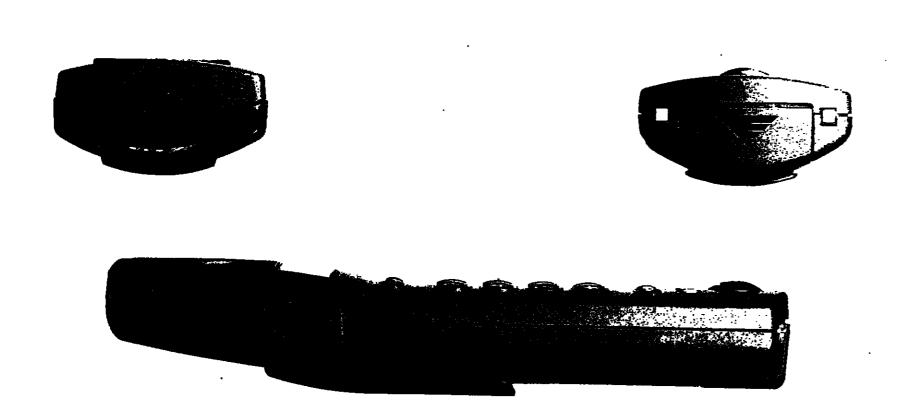
As Winnie Mandela faces

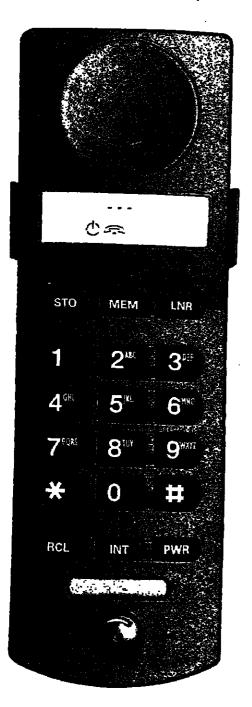
South Africa's Truth Commission,





Green architect wins approval for a bridge of trees





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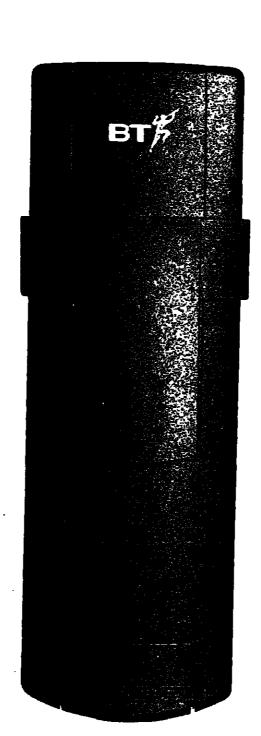
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BT lis good to talk







Alan Hamilton on a novel proposal by Piers Gough, left, to perk up a park

10 breat

f there is one colour that predominates in the work of the architect Piers Gough, it's green. Two years ago he produced a revolutionary design for a public lavatory in Westbourne Grove, Noming Hill, West London. In green glazed brick, it incorporated a florist's kiosk. What was once an unlovely necessity became an admired item of

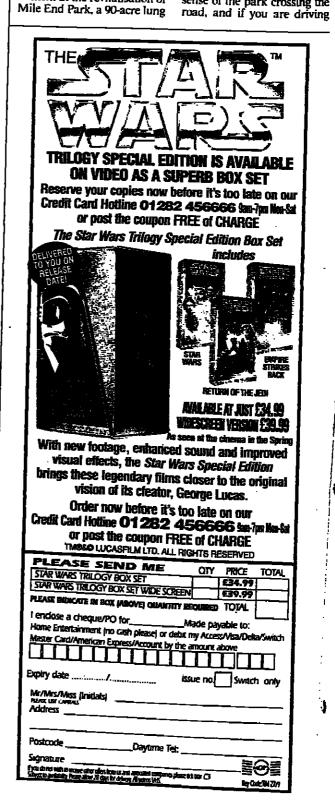
street furniture.

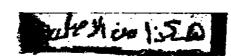
Now Gough has been given the green light — and £12 million of Millennium Commission lottery money — to build a green bridge. It will be a key element in the revitalisation of

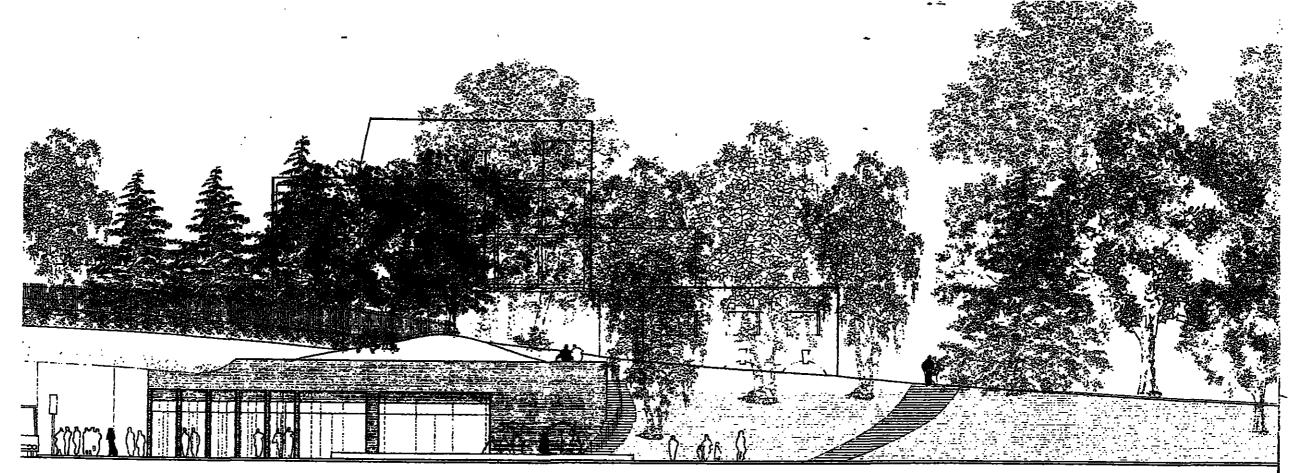
created in 1947 to give breathing space to half a million residents of the East End of London.

Tower Hamlets Council has given planning permission for the bold and novel green bridge, to be built of steel, earth and trees, which will at last unite the northern and southern halves of the park, until now separated by the five lanes of the busy Mile End Road.

"The idea is that the park wins out over the road, and that its two halves are seamlessly united: you will have the sense of the park crossing the road, and if you are driving







هكذا من الاعل

to breathe life back into 90-acre lung in the capital





bridge of steel, earth and trees will look, top. The structure will side of Mile End Park, above left, and its south side

of trees growing out of the Gough said yesterday. Under the bridge there cafés.

The architect, who lives locally, is mildly surprised to have got away with it. "There is a great fear of all developers in London; people will oppose almost anything. It's a British trait: 'We don't like the future; we are against it and we are against development'." Gough

Not everyone is happy, of course, and the unhappiest of all is Guardian Angels Roman Catholic primary school. which fears it will be engulfed by the bridge right alongside its 100-year-old premises. John Holland, the school governor who has led objections to the bridge, said: "The school will be isolated from the rest of the park. Our only entrance will be by a narrow alley. causing worry for the safety of more than 200 pupils and staff, and with a 7m bridge abutment right alongside us we will be in permanent

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woodland. For walkers.

actual." The school also fears that the bridge, like many other urban bridges, will be come a magnet for drunks, ularly undesirable outside a school gate Other parts of the scheme

have been more widely welcomed. Mile End Park runs alongside the last stretch of the Grand Union canal on its way to the Thames at Limehouse Basin, and is a prime site for recreation. But a park can no longer be just a park: it has to be an outdoor leisure centre. In matters of rus in urbe, man must control nature.

lavished on the park will pay for, among other amenities, a man-made mountain to provide views of Limehouse, three wind generators, a running track, art pavilion and an amphitheatre. The bridge should be completed time for Tower Hamlets's Hogmanay party in the park to welcome the new millennium, and will doubtless shelter those too wobbly and green to shadow: psychological if not make it home afterwards.



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saying it's fluff, it's cute. But if

you sit down and read his

books carefully, they have so

Ms Dimond-Cates, howev-

er, has no need to worry. My

own juvenile fantasies were

fired most effectively by Dr

Seuss, as was my earliest love

of words, and his master-

piece. The Sleep Book. would

be on my desert-island book-

sheli. Some take him very

seriously indeed. The writer James Traub, an acute ob-

server of American life

among New York's 40-some-

things, describes Dr Seuss as

a great folk poet. Over

dinner at his home last week.

he told me: "If I could only

choose one author whom I

could read aloud to my seven-

year-old son, it would proba-

Seuss cult has emerged, dedi-

cated to analysing his every

Not surprisingly, a whole

oly be Dr Seuss.

much more to them.

US finds Fat Ladies hard to swallow

FROM BRONWEN MADDOX IN WASHINGTON

MERICA has greeted the rival of Two Fat Ladies with e polite, nervous smile of meone offered an unidentifiale, pungent forkful of a

While some have hailed the but of Jennifer Paterson and arissa Dickson Wright on ble television's Food Netorl, as the birth of two new It stars, others have reacted if a wormy apple has been rried into Éden

That is partly because the to, in their tour of the bigne talk shows, have poriyed themselves as missionies of flavour, accusing nerican prudishness of takg the taste out of food and fun out of meals. On the question of food, at



Paterson: her smoking on camera horrifies

least, the Two Fat Ladies have a point. Outside the main cities and ethnic restaurants. American food can be astoundingly bland despite the bounty of ingredients available. Unflavoured by pepper, garlic or wine - and increasingly, ungraced by salt or butter — it is often downed with a glass of milk.

In some quarters the Fat Ladies have won firm fans. The Boston Globe gave the "unlikely cult figures" a rave review. The programme "is an Anglophile's delight, with lots of beautiful scenery, quaint atmosphere, and Paterson and Wright speaking in the poshest of British accents", although it says the pair are "not what you'd call genteel". In Canada, the Toronto Star dubbed the show "weird and wacky", adding: "Seriously,

folks, these gals can cook". They have one trend in their favour: vastly overweight people are now so common in America that fat has become acceptable. But inevitably the pair have grated on the nerves of the health-obsessed part of America. The Wall Street Journal reported with apparent horror that "Ms Paterson. who shares her partner's girth, hosts part of the halfhour show with a cigarette hanging from her mouth".

> Leading article, page 23 Vision, page 13



A drawing from The Cat in the Hat, by Dr Seuss

Fruity English tastes the best

more dashing colleagues.

THERE is no escape from them. Their faces are everywhere, and their accents, too. Plummy-voiced, London demotic, rasping Glaswegian, gritty Lancashire, singsong Welsh, even the odd Ulster-

man sounding like John Cole. British journalists have never been in heavier demand as television "talking heads". My telephone rings at least

thrice a day, with requests from Fox, NBC. ABC. CBS in fact, from every bit of the TV alphabet soup except, alas, MTV — to talk about Princess Diana (still), devolution, and now, floggings for nurses in Saudi Arabia. I have resisted their blandishments so far. But my

have this last month built handsome second careers. The American viewer, it seems, is likely to take a British voice more seriously than any other sort. I asked a chum in broadcasting why that is. "We call it 'news through the marmalade filter"," he replied. "Your accents just seem to taste so more silver-tongued than I.

Characters cast for word-play wizard

"LUKE LUCK likes lakes. Luke's duck likes lakes. Luke Luck licks lakes. Luke's duck icks lakes. Duck takes licks in lakes Luke Luck likes. Luke Luck takes licks in lakes duck

Only one man. Dr Seuss. could have composed these lively, nonsensical, compulsively rhythmic words. this rascally doggerel on which generations of English-speaking children have nourished their earliest imagination. The words are from Fox in Socks, one of 47 children's books written and illustrated by Dr Seuss (real name: Theodor Geisel), hundreds of millions of which have been sold around the world, reaping a fat fortune for Random House, his New York publishers. He died in 1991.

Now the trustees of the public library in Springfield. Massachusetts, Dr Seuss's home town, have unveiled plans for a memorial to him. consisting of a garden full of bronze statues depicting his weird and wacky characters. There will be the Cat in the Hat (and his sidekicks, Thing One and Thing Two). Yertle the Turde, Sam-I-Am (from Green Eggs and Ham), Horton the elephant, the Grinch, the Yook and the Zook. Oh yes, and the Nerd too - Dr

TUNKU VARADARAJAN'S

garden, to be completed by 1999, will cost \$6 million (£3.7 million) and the sculptures will be made by Lark Grey Dimond-Cates, his stepdaughter. Dr Seuss never had children, once saying famously to an audience of parents:

You make 'em. I amuse 'em.' The sculptress says: "I want people to leave the memorial taking Dr Seuss's work a little more seriously. I think a lot of

people take Dr Seuss lightly.



word for morals and messages. Spare the Seuss. I say. Geisel: cult following and you will spoil the child.

A WEE snipper from my spies at the United Nations. Robin Cook, who did not endear himself to journalists in New York by snapping at those who asked him awkward questions, seems to have spent most of his time at the General Assembly working on his speech for next week's Labour Party conference.

The Foreign Secretary's labours, however, were interrupted rudely by news from Saudi Arabia. A source said: "The whole thing was jolly inconvenient. All Mr Cook really wanted to do was to polish his oration for Brighton. And then this damned nurse business happened at just the wrong

Mr Cook is normally even-tempered, but these interruptions made him rather crabby. I think you might say he is rather nervous about his speech.

Liberty: big let-down

Feel free to forgo Liberty

GIVE me your fired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, and I shall make them feel infinitely worse.
This, in effect, is the mess-

age put about by the Statue of Liberty today, now surely the grottiest tourist site in New York. Visitors to the verdigris-complexioned lady are packed into grimy boats in Manhattan and then shipped to Liberty Island.

There, they sometimes have to wait for up to three hours just to reach the entrance. They are harassed constantly by vendors, commercial photographers and pushy superintendents.

There are few lavatories, so 22 (lights of stairs (and back) must often be negotiated with a fullish bladder.

The signs are misleading and people get lost. And once on top, on the statue's crown. they get barely a minute's glimpse of New York before they are hustled back down again. I now give visitors some simple advice: don't go to the Statue of Liberty. Have a few martinis instead, and then look at the postcard.

Winnie Mandela to give open evidence at truth commission

FROM SAM KILEY IN JOHANNESBURG

WINNIE Madikizeia-Mandela yesterday won the right to testify in public at South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission to try to clear her name. She has been implicated there in 18 cases of rights abuses, including eight murders, by amnesty applicants.

Mrs Mandela, 63 yesterday, appeared before the commission for the first time in secret hearings throughout the She was questioned about allegations made by anmesty applicants that she ordered assaults, kiunappings and murders during a township reign of terror in the

The hearings had been held in camera to protect other

witnesses, who say they fear for their lives after agreeing to give evidence allegedly damaging to the former wife of President Mandela. She is the most senior official of the African National Congress (ANC) to appear before the commission, hearing amnesty applications for apartheid-era

stand publicly on November I. she may cause panic among senior ANC members already rocked by allegations that they connived in covering up her part in the killing of Stomple Moeketsi Seipei in 1987 and other human rights abuses. The open hearing could not

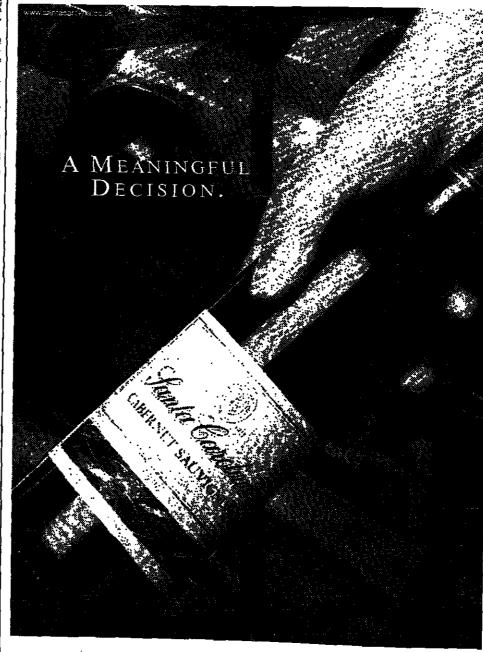
come at a worse time for the

ANC: its party congress is in mid-December and Mrs Mandela has been nominated for the deputy presidency.

One of her accusers, Jerry Richardson, was convicted of the murder in 1991 and received a life term. Mrs Mandela was acquitted but convicted of kidnapping and the assault of four youths. She was fined £1,500 on appeal.

Dumisa Nisebeza, who heads investigations for the commission, said: "She is here because we believe ... she is able to assist the commission in elucidating some or all of the issues found in the subpoena."

Leading article, page 23



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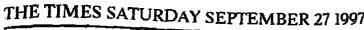
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. Plane crash in Indonesia haze leaves 234 dead

FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT IN JAKARTA

ALL 234 people on board an Indonesian airliner were killed when it crashed in thick haze in a ravine in Sumatra vesterday afternoon. It is unclear whether the

Feel free

to forgo Liberty

blanker of smog, which has virtually turned day into night over much of South-East Asia, had a direct bearing on the accident. Haryanto Dhanutirto, the Transport Minister, said visibility at the crash site was poor at less than 400

A source at Garuda, the national airline, said: "It could well have been the haze but we don't know yet." The accident, involving an Airbus 4300, is the worst aviation disaster in Indonesia.

Airports in the country and the region have been forced to close in recent weeks because of the haze caused by the clearing and burning of tracts Di land in southern Sumatra and Kalimantan, the Indonesian part of Borneo. Yesterday's accident came as the Government warned plantation owners and their contract staff to bring the fires under

The Airbus crashed into a ravine near a heavily lorested mountain 30 miles from Medan, its destination in northern Sumatra, shortly after 1.30pm local time. Air traffic controllers lost contact four minutes before it was due to land. The airport was closed later. Among the dead were eight foreigners, two Americans and six Japanese.

Sergeant Ari Suriono, of the north Sumatra police, said: Witnesses told me the plane was flying very low and hit a tree. It then crashed to the ground and caught fire." He said visibility in the area had worsened during the day.

source at Jakarta's Soekarno-Hatta International Airport said she heard that the aeroplane, Flight GAI52, crashed because it had run out of fuel. "I heard that the pilot could not find the runway in the haze and, while circling, ran out of petrol."

As the haze continued to pollute the region. Malaysia vesterday cancelled flights to live of its airports, including the resorts of Penang and Pulau Langkawi. Reports also said that tourists have started cancelling visits to South-East

Relief firefighters dispatched by Malaysia to help to fight the inferno in Sumatra are not expected to see any action until next week. Japan.



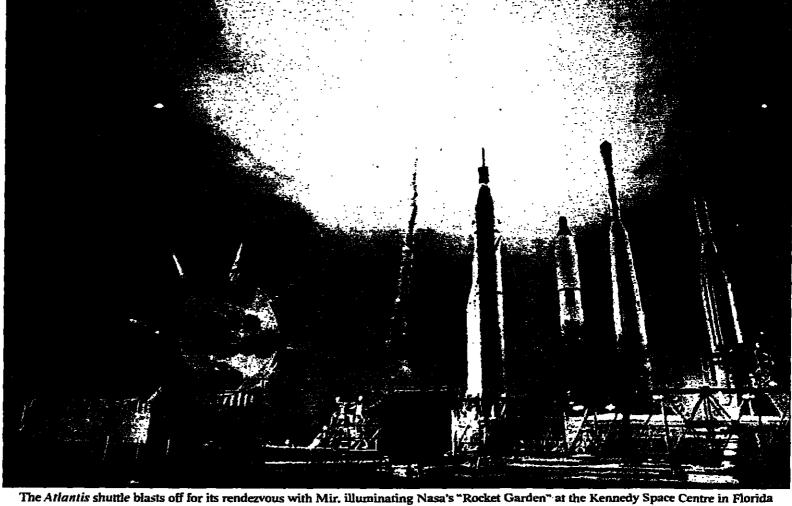
Shifting winds in the region yesterday caused the haze to thicken in Sumatra and peninsular Malaysia and lift slightly in Borneo. In Kuala Lumpur, the air pollutant index reached a record high vesterday. Breathing the smog in the Malaysian capital is equivalent to smoking 20-30 igarettes a day.

until mid-November.

experts to Indonesia.

Many Westerners are already leaving the city. Hundreds of American, Canadian. Australian and French residents received a formal briefing on the smog. A British High Commission spokesman said British expatriates were not yet being advised to leave but he added that he knew of many who were making preparations to return home. 🛘 Paris: It will take between 30 and 500 years to restore

ideal conditions for tree growth after a fire on the scale now ravaging the jungle of Indonesia, said Jean-Guy Bertault, a French expert on



American shuttle heads for Mir rendezvous



"Rabbit's foot ... check. Lucky heather ... check."

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

THE Atlantis space shuttle is expected to dock with the beleaguered Mir Russian station this evening after blasting off from the Kennedy Space Centre in

The shuttle, carrying a crew of seven, is delivering David Wolf, an American replacement for Michael Foal, the British-born astronaut on board the Russian

Mir was 250 miles above Germany, on its 66.278th orbit in more than 11 years, when the Atlantis countdown clocks hit zero. Despite being so close to the Earth's atmosphere, the shuttle and the station were taking almost two days to synchronise their orbits.

Dr Foale, who arrived on Mir in May, was spending yesterday discussing last-

minute preparations with Nasa before returning to Earth in ten days' time. During four months on board, the astronaut has endured a nearly disastrous collision of Mir with a cargo ship, repeated computer crashes and numerous other failures that prompted calls by Congress to abandon the mission.

However, Mr Wolf appeared relaxed before blast-off, shouting "Happy New Year, folks" — the next time he will be on American soil will be January next year en route to the launch pad.

His mother, making light of the possible danger of his mission, jokingly added: "I hope David remembers his screwdriver to help fix Mir." Mr Wolf's four-month orbital tour

aboard Mir was given the go-ahead because the mission poses no "unnecessary peril". Daniel Goldin, the Nasa

Mikhail Sinelshikov, the head of the Russian space agency's directorate for manned programs, told the Interfax news agency that Nasa's decision showed the United States was interested in a sensible working partnership in space exploration. At Cape Canaveral, Frank Culbertson,

the veteran shuttle commander who heads Nasa's shuttle-Mir programme, said: "We are irretrievably bound together in space now. When you make a commitment to a partner, you stick with them through good and bad."

The crew included two would-be Mir residents: Scott Parazynski, ruled out for a long duration mission because he is too tall, and Wendy Lawrence, who was dropped because she was too short. Also on board were Jean-Loup Chrètien, a French astronaut, and Vladimir Titov, a Russian cosmonaut.

WORLD IN BRIEF

A Garuda Airbus, similar to the one that crashed

Hong Kong bans **English** in class

Hong Kong: The Government here has decided to banish English as the main teaching language in schools, and head teachers who refuse could be jailed. The education department said yesterday that schools will begin by teaching 12-year-olds in Cantonese Chinese from next year, despite the opposition of many parents.

Proposed special ordinances allow for recalcitrant head teachers to be jailed or fined in extreme cases, while their schools may face sanctions. Those with 85 per cent or more students capable of learning in English will be exempted. By 2000 students will be able to learn Mandarin Chinese, which will become part of the Certificate of Education

examination, a university entrance requirement. (AFP) **Duma vote defies Kremlin**

Moscow: The State Duma, the Russian parliament's lower house, refused to remove a critic of President Yeltsin as head of its defence committee. The Communist-dominated chamber voted narrowly to retain General Lev Rokhlin, who was ousted from the pro-government party Our Home Is Russia this month after opposing Kremlin plans for military reform and calling for Mr Yeltsin's removal. (Reuters)

Dylan plays hard to get



Rome: The Pope, who has never been to a rock concert before, will attend a performance today by Bob Dylan, left (Richard Owen writes). The singer, on arrival in Italy yesterday, ran into accusations that he had "gone to ground" 40 miles from Bologna, the con-cert venue, and was avoiding church officials gathered to greet him. Dylan is the final star arrraction in the nine-day World

Yeltsin signs religion Act

Moseow: President Yeltsin yesterday signed a law on religious freedoms in Russia, despite a last-minute US attempt to persuade Moscow that it was discriminatory. Supporters of the Bill say it will clamp down on the dangerous sects which poured into Russia after the collapse of communism. Opponents say it violates the constitution and discriminates against conventional minorities. (Reuters)

Cairo blast 'isolated case'

New York: German experts have concluded that an attack on a tourist bus in Cairo, in which ten people were killed, was probably an isolated case and not linked to terrorists, Klaus Kinkel, the Foreign Minister, said. He said Saber Abu al-Ola, right, the key suspect in the September 18 attack in which nine Germans were killed outside the Egyptian Museum, was not thought to be involved with a terror group. (AFP)



Spot drug tests for pupils

Miami: A south Florida school board has voted to subject pupils in the Miami area to random drug testing (David Adams writes). From January, children will be picked out of class and tested for marijuana, cocaine, opiates, barbiturates and amphetamines. The tests will be conducted by a private agency. Parental consent will be required.

Spielberg's dream factory still chases magic formula

THE reputation of Hollywood's most ambitious new studio since the 1920s hangs in the balance this weekend as Dreamworks SKG's first film opens in 2,300 American cinemas, three years after investors pumped in \$2.7 billion (£1.7 billion) on the strength of its founders' names.

Steven Spielberg, Jeffrey Katzenberg and David Geffen will be watching the box-office fortunes of The Peacemaker even more nervously than their backers. The \$50 million thriller stars George Clooney and Nicole Kidman, but was directed by a newcomer and brings the studio to the big

screen a year behind schedule. The delay is the least of the company's woes, its birth pains having been an object lesson in the hurdles facing any who dare to try breaking into an American entertainment industry increasingly dominated by six conglomerates, including Time-Warner, the Walt Disney Company and Viacom, owner of Paramount Pictures.

Four out of five television series made by Dreamworks' television division have failed. The most expensive album produced by its recording arm, George Michael's Older, was a disappointment in America. Bold plans for an interactive CD-ROM division overestimated the market's interest, and bolder ones for the studio's permanent home have so far created more dreams than works. Thwarted by quarrelling property developers and angry environmentalists, bulldozers have yet to

break ground on a prime West Los Angeles coastal site. Despite lacking its own premises, Dreamworks has earmarked roughly \$1 billion of its start-up capital, experts believe, hiring 1.500 employees, many of whom are working in temporary offices. It has also spent heavily on exclusive production deals with such directors as Robert Zemeckis.



a Spielberg family friend, and Scott Hicks, the Australian who made Shine. The success of Dream-

works' feature film division depends overwhelmingly, however, on Spielberg, the most commercially successful director of all time. What people are investing in is what he knows about the culture, and has known now for 20 years, that no one else has ever figured out," Neal Gabler, the distinguished writer on Hollywood, said when the studio was founded.

It has not reassured his

Steven Spielberg left, hopes the

nightmare will end with his

company's new

blockbuster, says Giles Whittell

backers - among them the Seattle software billionaire Paul Allen — that Spielberg has spent much of the past three years in a creative hiatus after making Jurussic Park and Schindler's List back-toback in 1992 and 1993.

Returning to work last year, he made The Lost World, Jurassic Park's blockbuster sequel — but for Universal Studios. He helped to produce this summer's other megahit, Men In Black, though for his own production company, Amblin Entertainment. The two films have brought in

in America alone. The Peacemaker is expected to do solid but not spectacular

more than \$470 million so far

business. Notable chiefly for unveiling Dreamworks' whimsical logo — a vintage Spielbergian image of a boy fishing in clouds from a crescent moon - it has disappointed critics with its formulaic plot about terrorists stealing nuclear weapons. "A duil debut," Time magazine called it. Spielberg's first film for his

own studio will be Amistad, based on the true story of a 19th-century slave ship mutiny. Though already the object of Oscar gossip three months before its Christmas release, it is unlikely to be Dreamworks' first hit; its director said recently that its message of social justice mattered more to him than its profits.

Meanwhile, the brainchild of three of Hollywood's most fertile minds is becoming the butt of boardroom humour. At a Rocky Mountain retreat for America's entertainment elite this summer, the booby prize was a Dreamworks doll. Wind it up, the host explained, and nothing happens.

The court also ordered all 24

Mafia 'beast' and henchmen get life for killing judge

FROM FRANCESCO BONGARRA IN PALERMO

AN ITALIAN court yesterday jailed the Mafia's "Boss of Bosses", Salvatore "Toto" Riina, and 23 associates for life for the 1992 murder of the anti-Mafia prosecutor, Giovanni Falcone.

The court gave lesser terms to another six defendants and found nine others not guilty of killing Falcone, his wife, Francesca Morvillo, and three

bodyguards. Only one of the convicted gangsters, Pietro Aglieri, was present in the heavily fortified bunker set up as a courtroom in the city prison of Caltanissetta in central Sicily, when the trial began in February 1995. The court was presided over by Judge Carmelo

Zuccaro.

Riina was nicknamed "the beast" because of his cruelty. The other 23 included Nitto Santapaola, his former lieutenant, Bernardo Provenzano. still on the run, Leoluca Bagarella and Aglieri, who set the 1,100 lb bomb in the Falcone attack on the outskirts of Palermo. The murders horrified Italy and sparked a crackdown against the Mafia. This led to the arrest of several of its top members, including Rima, who is already serving nine life sentences.

to be kept in solitary confinement for 18 months and stripped them of all family rights. They were also ordered

to pay 3 billion lire (£1.07 million) to the Government and to the murdered people's

relatives as part of a civil suit in the trial. Along with 24 life sentences. the court gave more lenient

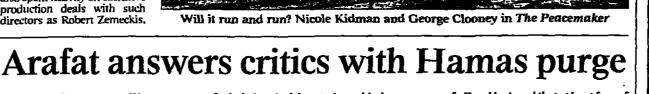
jail terms to another six Mafia men who helped the prosecutors. Giovanni Brusca, the most senior mafioso captured in the past year, got a 26-year sentence. He admitted using the remote-control device which triggered the Falcone explosion and destroyed half a mile of motorway.

Defence lawvers vowed to appeal against the verdicts. but prosecutors expressed their satisfaction. "This is an historic verdict, closing an historic trial. The court met all our requests except for some details," said Paolo Giordano. who had sought 32 life sentences.

Lawyers representing the families of those who were killed said they were satisfied with the result. Relatives of Falcone and the

bodyguards attended the last of the 107 hearings of the trial. along with about 100 journalists and lawyers.

Today it is a day of great pain as no one can give us back our beloved relatives," Maria Falcone, sister of the murdered judge, said. "But it because those who killed Giovanni will finally pay."



FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

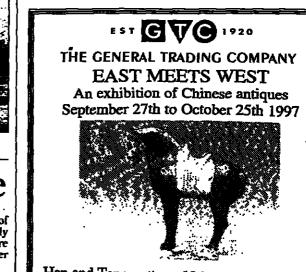
YASSIR ARAFAT'S security forces vesterday launched a sweeping crackdown on Islamic militants and their social infrastructure, as has repeatedly been

demanded by Israel and America. By nightfall, about 100 suspected militants had been arrested and 17 Hamas-affiliated institutions closed in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, their buildings scaled with red wax. These included a television station, a kindergar-ten, a sports club and a women's group. The swoop was the biggest against the militants since the mass arrests after suicide bombings early in 1996 which triggered the downfall of Shimon Peres, then Israel's Prime Minister.

Many of those detained then were quickly released. prompting Israeli officials to accuse Mr Arafat, the President of the Palestinian Authority, of operating a revolving door" security policy. The new clampdown stemmed from

proof offered by Israel that at least four of the five suicide bombers who recently attacked Jerusalem, killing 20 Jews, were from the West Bank and not further abroad, as Mr Arafat had insisted.

"Mr Arafat instructed the move because Hamas had misled him by claiming not to have had any part in the Jerusalem market and Ben Yehuda street bombs," a Palestinian official said. The Israeli Government had been threatening to act against Islamic militants in the Palestinian self-rule areas.



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Guess who's coming to Labour's victory party...

our Party conference, once the annual gathering of the far-left and trade union barons, has become the most in demand social and

political gathering of the year. A resord 15,000 dele-

gates compared with 10,000 last year, will throng

Hoddle, the England soccer

advertising agency which

helped propel Margaret











Brighton bound: from football, Trevor Brooking and Glenn Hoddle; the theatre, Jude Kelly: the music business, Alan McGee, from publishing, Eileen Wise and Terry Mansfield: from PR. Matthew Freud

A celebration for all but a rough ride for a few

By PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

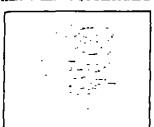
DAVID BLUNKETT and Harriet Harman face a rough ride when Labour meets as the governing party for the first time in 19 years at Brighton

Although the mood will be celebratory after the victory of May I, and although Tony Blair, John Prescott and others will be allowed to bask in their triumph, Labour's activists are expected to flex their muscles, most notably in the debates on education and benefits.

Conference planners expect Mr Blunkett to face tough questioning on Wednesday over the Government's decision in July to introduce tuition fees for university students, and Ms Harman on the same day may face criticism over Gordon Brown's decision to go ahead with Tory cuts in lone parent benefit.

In recent months Labour strategists have suggested that Mr Blair's greatest difficulties could come over his latest batch of party reforms. the shake-up of the national executive and the changes to the way the conference debates issues.

But after initial opposition from the unions the leadership compromised over its right to table motions for emergency debates, a concession that seems likely to get the latest "modernising" proposals through. Modernisation of



BRIGHTON

Britain and the party is expected to be one of the central themes of Mr Blair's speech to the conference on Tuesday. when he is expected to set his sights not only on the end of the present Parliament but also of the next. The need for Labour to have at least two terms — and to maintain its discipline - will be a constant

Mr Prescott will open pro-ceedings on Monday with his general election report" - an unashamed excuse to remind his audience of the glory of May I and the part played in it by Mr Blair. But it will straight down to business with the reforming "partnership into power" document up for discussion on the first morning, with Mr Brown opening the economic debate in the

The first day may have one final twist: if the runes have been read correctly, Peter Mandelson will be elected to the National Executive Com-

mittee. The idea of Labour activists putting Mr Mandelson on to the committee would have been unthinkable not long ago. But it is believed they are ready to show some gratitude for his part in winning the election and promoting the cause of Mr Blair

in earlier years. His main opponent for the acancy is Ken Livingstone. A Mandelson defeat would provide the press with one of its best stories of the week which is why it probably will not happen.

On Tuesday morning during the debate on the health service ministers will take the opportunity to warn the party that a "long, hard slog" lies ahead before the Government can restore the National Health Service to the state it would like. Frank Dobson will deliver the message but the hand of Mr Brown, and his firm insistence that the previous Government's spending limits be adhered to, will be behind it.

The rest of the day will belong to Mr Blair. The Prime Minister has spent much of the past week working on his speech and will chart Labour's path for the next live years. He is assured of a hero's

> Leading article, page 23 Letters, page 23 Magazine, page 8

hat a difference an election makes. Andrew Pierce admires the shining

guest list and concludes that the

conference is the only party in town

the first time. Society photographers will have a field day. One of

Labour's first conference the most sought after party invitations is the one being since 1978 as the party of There are some unlikely hosted by National Magatests at the feast. Glenn zines on Thursday — the first time the company has coach not noted for his thrown a bash at a Labour Labour leanings, will make conference. Editors of titles an appearance with Trevor such as Harpers & Queen. Cosmopolitan, Esquire and Good Housekeeping will Brooking, the footballer turned commentator, to lend support to Britain's bid host the champagne affair to stage the World cup in

with Terry Mansfield, the company's managing director. The party was the idea of Elleen Wise, the company's head of communica-

victories, will be represented in the Tory Party election machine at the election. There are now more than 100 women MPs. thought it was an ideal time to meet them." she said. Matthew Freud, the pub-

lic relations guru whose clients include Pepsi and Mars, will be entertaining tomorrow night Lenny Henry and Hugh Laurie will provide the cabaret. Captains of industry will

be represented in force. Richard Branson's Virgin Travel has taken an exhibition stand. The Liffe. Europe's biggest futures and options market is also making its debut at a Labour Fabian Society reception with Peter Mandelson. Represenatives of private health companies, more at ease with Conservative polices, will be working alongside the trade unions.

The luvvie factor will be stronger than ever. Jude Kelly, the artistic director of the West Yorkshire Playhouse theatre, tipped as a future head of the National Theatre, will be speaking.

so will Alan McGee, the founder of Creation Records, who discovered Oasis. Mr McGee has been nicknamed the Peter Mandelson of the music industry after delivering one of the most carefully planned publicity cam-paigns for the band's latest album. Be Here Now, which sold 350,000 copies in 12 hours. Five years ago Mr McGee, like the Labour Party, was on the verge of

Benn's attack gives warning that Left will not hold its tongue



Benn: said new party structure was unsound AND JAMES LANDALE

TONY BENN yesterday accused the Prime Minister of attempting to dismantle the Labour Party. In a clear sign that left-

wingers were ready to confront the leadership at the party conference, the veteran MP dismissed new Labour and said that the Establishment had always yearned for the party to abandon Mr Benn believes that the

leadership's Partnership into Power document, on which the conference will vote, would righten Mr Blair's grip on the party. The Prime Minister's supporters say the proposals would give local activists a

In an interview with Labour Left Briefing. Mr Benn said: "This is not the end of the Labour Party but the attempt to use it as a foundation for something new. You can't separate yourself from your roots. It's like a tree deciding to cut its roots and just grow upwards. The tree will collapse. as we saw with the SDP."

Labour was vesterday given the green light to press ahead with its inquiry in Glasgow after Alex Mosson, deputy Lord Provost failed in his court bid to get his suspension lifted. Mr Mosson, 57, was one of nine Glasgow councillors suspended by the party this week amid serious allegations including that they traded political favours for trips abroad and broke party rules.

Mr Benn said that he would not leave the Labour Party. "If people leave they are contributing to the process of handing it over to new Labour. If leftwing MPs left the party it Mr Blair will tomorrow face his first public confrontation

with union members since taking office. Hundreds of rebel branches of Unison. Britain's largest public-service union, are to defy their leadership with a protest against the Government outside the conference hall in Brighton. They will be joined by other unions.

than 5.000 people to attend. The protesters will demand greater pay rises for teachers and healthworkers, an end to tuition fees for students, scrapping of the Private Finance Initiative, higher taxes to pay for better public services, and the defence of Labour's links with the unions.

The march, organised by the Unison branch at University College Hospital, London, has been condemned by Rodney Bickerstaffe, the general secretary. In a letter to members, he said: "The lobby will only detract from the efforts being made by Unison, in the Labour Party and elsewhere, to pursue union policies such as opposition to the Private Finance Initiative.

Candy Linwin, Lini retary at University College Hospital, said: "We are telling Blair's Government that we expected change when we voted them in, not more of the same. The honeymoon is well and truly over. How can big pay rises for ministers even be on the agenda when low-paid nurses and teachers are told their wages will be held down?

Strategy. failures lost **Tories** 80 seats

By Nicholas Wood

WEAK organisation cost the Tories about 80 seats at the general election, the Shadow Cabinet will be told next week. The findings come from research undertaken by ICM, the Conservatives' pollster. They will be presented to William Hague and his team at a two-day preconference strategy ses-

The results will strengthen Mr Hague's hand in his efforts to convince his party and his parliamentary colleagues that the Tory machine must be radically overhauled if the Conservatives are to present a serious challenge to Lab-our at the next election.

They amount to the first hard evidence that the Conservatives paid a heavy price for allowing their grassroots support to wither during their 18 years in power.

ICM compared the level of contact with voters either in person or by telephone - established by the two main parties in 12 marginal seats. It found that the anti-Tory swing was much lower in seats where the Conservatives were at least as good as Labour in tracking down

Overall, 41 per cent of the swing could be explained by differences in contact rates, the pollsters say. This means that the Conservatives could have reduced the national swing to Labour from 10 per cent to 6 per cent if they had matched their opponents on the ground, according to the research. A o per cent swing would have limited the Labour majority to 35 - compared with the 179 achieved on polling day. It would also have given the Tories about 250 seats, compared with the 165 they actually secured.

greater internal democracy and a centralised system of collecting and recording membership details as part of his proposmoribund party machine. According to the internal Central Office post mortem, the Tories were rejected because they lost their reputation for sound economic management after Black Wednesday and because they were seen as sleazy, divided and arrogant. But the ICM research shows that organisational factors were almost as important

Mr Hague has promised

One senior Tory official said: "This is not a comment on our members they slugged their guts out as usual - but on the fact that we lost so many activists during our 18 years in government."

as political ones.



strengthen his hand

Salmond delivers foretaste of conflicts with Labour

By SHIRLEY ENGLISH

ALEX SALMOND, leader of the Scottish Nationalists, yesterday attacked new Labour as the party of "New Let-Downs'

Addressing 1,000 delegates at the SNP conference at Rothesay, on the Isle of Bute, he said Tony Blair's party was little more than "the Tories in designer labels" and added: "A Scottish parliament must and will cut its cloth according to its own fashion."

Giving a foretaste of future conflicts, following a brief truce between the parties during the referendum campaign. Mr Salmond criticised the "rightward drift" of Labour and claimed that it had assimilated the creed of Thatcherism^{*}

That creed, he claimed, now barred the younger generation from free higher education and forced the "generation that fought for freedom" into selling their homes to pass the means test for residential care. "How can anyone trust Cabinet members who benefited from free education yet now deny it to a new generation?" he said.

Referring to Labour's recent problems with sleaze in Glasgow, Mr Salmond said that a Scottish parliament elected by proportional representation would "sweep away the cynical culture of civic

Paraphrasing a song by The Proclaimers, who are SNP supporters, Mr Salmond said: "Let me say to the people of Scotland. Monklands no more. Glasgow no more. Paisley no more. No more Labour one-party states in Scotland. Now it is time for democracy to force the issue."

However, Mr Salmond expressed his belief that the parties should work together where possible and renewed his call for co-operation in building the "people's par-

Hague findings

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The two faces of Cherie

Mrs Blair and Ms Booth share the roles of mother, barrister, First Lady and charity worker. Michael Gove separates woman and superwoman

ince the election, Tony Blair's wife has had to be two people at once: Cherie Bouth the QC. and Cherie Blair, First Lady to an increasingly presidential

Prime Minister. Over the past seven days she has been swapping personas, from Booth to Blair, as often as the models at London Fashion Week have switched outlits. Last Sunday she became godmother to the youngest child of her Islington friends Stephen and Felicity Mostyn-Williams, spending most of

the afternoon at the christening. On Monday, Mrs Blair launched a breast cancer campaign from No 10. The followng day. Ms Booth was in the headlines for calling on the Bar to be less elitist, while Wednesday saw her winning a case for a woman with dyslexia. Yesterday Mrs Blair presented a Grand-

parent of the Year award. And **6** Friends today Ms Booth is chairing the annual Bar conioke that she ference. From tois as likely to morrow, how-ever, Cherie pull a packet Booth becomes Mrs Tony Blair of pasta out for the whole week — at the of her Labour Party conference in briefcase as Brighton, An intelligent and aran affidavit 🤊 ticulate woman be turned

adoring wife. The conference is one of the worst weeks of the year for her. A woman who lives on her eloquence and charms with her wit must observe a convent silence. Commentators, denied the chance to discuss her views, instead dissect her clothes, her hairstyle, her make-up - and, most of all, her body language, which some interpret as pained. It cannot be easy.

Party conference is not number one in her list of favourite occupations," a friend says. But she just puts and gets on with it. She's a great getter-onner."

Since the election, that is precisely what Ms Booth has had to do. There were those who doubted her ability to continue at the Bar after Labour won power. They feared for her safety, they worried about conflicts of interest. Some simply disapproved of a Prime Minister's wife having a career. To prove them wrong, she has just got on with it, ploughing through attendant reporters and pho-

tographers to argue her case. But although she keeps her arguments for court her continuing career has become a statement in itself. A poll of sixth-form girls put her top of their list of "superwomen" role models. It is a term much abused, but for this successful harrister the wig may fit.

he balancing act. easy. Within 24 hours of May I, while Mr Blair was dispensing great offices of state. Cherie was learning to cope with living above the office. It was more than just another upheaval. Managing the move from Islington, with the family's taste in furnishings under scrutiny, was hardly the ideal way to wind down after six weeks of electioneering.

Downing Street is not exactly a cosy family home. The flat above No II is big enough bur still fairly institutional. The move has not been withour its political complications. Wrangles over rooms with next-door neighbour Gordon Brown have, according to insiders. strained relations between Mr Blair's wife and his Chancellor. But Chequers, the Prime Minister's country retreat, is a sanctuary for the family, where they can properly relax. Weekends are cherished, for while maintaining a private life was hard enough in Opposition, it has proved almost

impossible in Government. Privacy is something that the Blairs have come to value. The Prime Minister is protective of his wife: both are ferociously protective of their three children. Cherie, herself the daughter of a famous father (the actor Tony Booth) knows the dangers of growing

up in the flashgun's glare. They try to lead as much of a family life as possible in the circumstances. The Prime Minister aims to go upstairs from his office at about 7pm to see the children: Cherie is often not back until later. In the mornings, the Prime Minister can no longer drop off the children at the Tube as he used

to, so Cherie pays for them to be driven to school. Relatives and a nanny help to share the childcare burden. As well as continuing her legal practice. Cheric has managed to fit in charity work, engagements with her husband and responsibility for the running of the household. Friends joke that she is as likely to pull a packet ul pasta out of her briefcase as an affidavit. One says: "She's unflappable - that's her real strength. She has enormous stamina." Steely robustness was demonstrated by her return to the courtroom just days after her daughter was deliv-

ered by Caesarean section. Being the wife of the Prime Minister calls for psychological as well as physical stamina. You cannot open your door to a delivery man in a nightdress. You cannot go to the supermarket without being

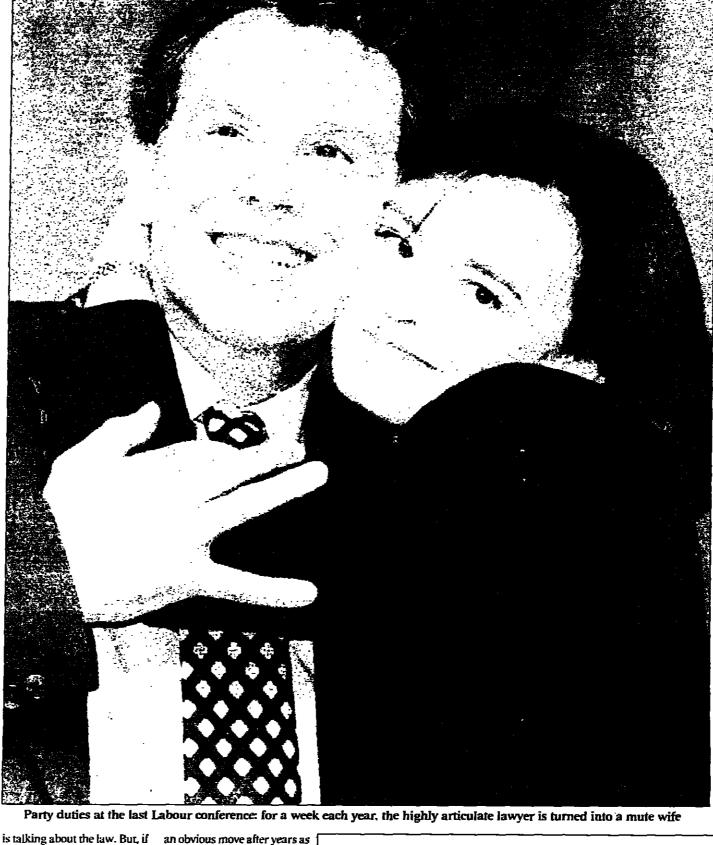
photographed and having your choice of chunky knir analysed. Worst of all, you cannot assert your intelligence without people assuming that you want to run the country. Or aiready do. Those determined to make Mrs Blair the Modernisers' Messalina have tried to suggest

she is a homegrown Hillary

Clinton, But however justified stateside suspicions may be about who really wears the chinos in the White House, the parallels do not hold.

Both Hillary and Cherie are lawyers with progressive husbands who like soft rock. But then so are half the women in Islington and many of the wives in Washington. The similarities between the two end there. When Bill Clinton ran for office, he boasted that voters would get "two for the price of one". He allowed his wife to help to choose his her in it, with responsibility for reforming healthcare. It was a disaster and one the Blairs have no intention of repeating.

Cherie did once have political ambitions of her own and stood unsuccessfully for Thanet North in 1983. But she and her husband had a pact; if one got into Parliament, the other would stay at the Bar to support the family. Once he won Sedgefield, she disengaged from active politics and returned to law. She has



an obvious move after years as a senior barrister. The trouble is that legal terms are fixed, and judges have to be available for sittings all term. They cannot plead for time off to attend a G7 economic summit or to fit in some devolution

issues she embraces, there is campaigning. Even if the Lord Chancellor always the danger that she will make a "gaffe" that will were to make an exception, remain on the cuttings files for that could give rise to charges ever. For a woman who rose of nepotism. The man who by eloquence and intelligence would appoint Cherie to such a position and give her time off is her old pupil-master, her husband's mentor and the couple's close friend. Lord Irvine of Lairg.

she were to give other inter-

views, her words would run

the risk of being distorted and

she would lose any right she

still has not to be treated as a

However uncontentious the

public figure.

The acceptable public role: a charity event last week

it has become dangerous to

demonstrate too much evi-

she is in her element. As a

barrister, she prefers cool rea-

son to verbal pyrotechnics,

When she occasionally sits on

the bench, as an assistant

recorder, observers say she

deploys a sympathetic man-

ner, taking care to put witness-

Because of her duries as Mrs

Blair, though, Cherie may find

that her next step on the legal

ladder is harred to her. She

had an ambition to be a judge.

In court, on the other hand,

dence of either.

es at their ease.

no wish to be the Prime

Minister's back-seat driver.

Nonetheless, political enemies

are waiting for the opportunity

to paint her as a Lady Mac-

beth. Advisers have tried to

forestall that danger with a

series of "softening" exercises.

But in order not to appear

threatening she runs the dan-

ger of "dumbing down".

Guest-editing Prima maga-

zine, knitting patterns and all.

before the election provoked

Charity work on behalf of

breast cancer patients or hat-

tered women is acceptable. So

ridicule as much as respect.

Her current legal practice is somewhat more flexible. Most of her cases are pre-planned and she can, on the whole, work them around her husband's diary. There was concern initially that some of her clients would be deterred by the publicity she attracted, but she is still in demand. Her main problem has been the manner in which critics have wilfully misunderstood the "cab-rank" principle. Barristers have to accept whatever case they are offered. Ms Booth had to endure criticism from the Left when she acted against poll-tax defaulters and sniping from the Right when she represented a lesbian litigant in Brussels. In both cases she was acting as counsel must, a professional advocate for the arguments, irrespective of personal feeling.

intelligent or an woman, however, there are ironies in she had political ambitions, they must surely have been to be First Lord of the Treasury, not First Lady. Academically and at the Bar, she has achieved everything possible: four "A" grades at A level, top First in her year, top of her Bar exams, and appointed one of the country's youngest QCs at her first attempt.

Yet still she is outshone by her husband. As she once remarked, I started life as the daughter of someone. Now I

am the wife of someone." If she were almost anyone else's wife, she might he the star of the couple. It is a tribute to her that she has handled her position with poise. At the end of a week in which commentators such as Francis Fukuvama have marshalled formidable arguments questioning whether women can have it all. Cherie Booth is an example to all those who believe that they should at least be allowed to try.



£2,000 TO BE WON TODAY — TURN TO THE EQUITY PRICES, PAGE 26

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THE



The hardworking QC in her chambers



Celebrating with a successful client



As the patron of Breast Cancer Care



Fugitive killer held in France







From left, Holly Maddux, whose body was found in Einhorn's flat in 1977; Einhorn with a Philadelphia sheriff's deputy during his 1979 trial; Annika Flodin, his Swedish wife, and Einhorn is led into a Bordeaux appeals court this week

THE SUNDAY TIMES



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couture heights?



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THE SUNDAY TIMES IS THE SUNDAY PAPERS

Ben Macintyre unfolds the saga of an American hippie-era guru who is fighting extradition

ra Einhorn, celebrated former hippie guru and convicted murderer, was returned to a Bordeaux jail cell this week as French and US lawyers wrangled over whether he should be sent back to Philadelphia to serve a life sentence after 16 years as a fugitive in Britain, Ireland, Scandinavia and France.

Since his arrest, the man who emerged in the 1960s as a leader of the drug-saturated counter-culture has entered an unreal legal limbo. Washington has formally demanded his extradition, but under French law anyone tried in absentia has the right to a retrial. Rarely has such a retrial been granted in America.

On Wednesday, the Bordeaux court of appeals that has pondered the case for the past three months postponed its decision and requested more information from the United States. Sitting in court, the bearded Einhorn. 57, who has successfully evaded American justice for so long, smiled broadly.

Last June a lucky break led the FBI to a converted mill in Champagne-Mouton in the Charente and the discovery of the real identity of Eugene Mallon, self-styled English novelist and member of the local bridge club.

Thirty years ago Einhorn was one of the most prominent and weirdest figures in the growing hippie movement. A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, Einhorn experimented with LSD in the 1950s, opposed the Vietnam War and briefly taught English literature at Harvard, soon attracting a mass following with his charisma and love of publicity. Einhorn called himself "planetary enzyme" and wowed his conference in the

Einhorn called himself "planetary enzyme" and wowed his acolytes with theories about "psychic weaponry". the paranormal, ecology and CIA conspiracies. In 1972 Einhorn began a stormy relationship with Holly Maddux, 25, a mildly unbalanced Texan hippie. Late in 1977 Maddux disappeared, Eighteen months later Einhorn's neighbours in Philadelphia reported a stench. On March 28, 1979, police raided his flat and found the woman's decomposing body locked in a trunk.

ing body locked in a trunk.

Einhorn was arrested, claiming to be the victim of a CIA plot. His admirers rallied round and lawyers had no difficulty raising the \$40,000

g extradition

(£25,000) bail. Two days before his murder trial was due to

start. Einhorn slipped out of

me C workt

Philadelphia. Using false names, Einhorn headed first to London and then to Dublin, where he joined the poetic circle round Seamus Heaney at Trinity College. in 1987 the great Irish poet reportedly told police he had known Einhorn, then calling himself Ben Moore. Before the Irish police could pounce. Einhorn had moved on again: back to England, to the Balearic Islands, Switzerland and back to London. It was in London in 1987 that Einhorn met Annika Flodin, a Swedish fashion designer II years his junior. They settled briefly in Stockholm.

Back in Philadelphia a district attorney, Richard Di Benedetto, was slowly picking up Einhorn's trail. In 1988 the Swedish police closed in on Flodin's apartment, only to find it empty. In 1992, with a fake identity card. Einhorn became Eugene Mallon and Flodin became his wife Annie.

The following year a Philadelphia jury found Einhorn guilty of murder in absentia and sentenced him to life imprisonment. Maddux had been killed by repeated blows of to the head.

y 1993, Eugene and Annie Mallon were living quietly and comfortably in the Guitry mill at Champagne-Mouton. Annie was liked in the village, but the author, who said he was born in England and raised in California, was more reserved, speaking poor French and hardly socialising.

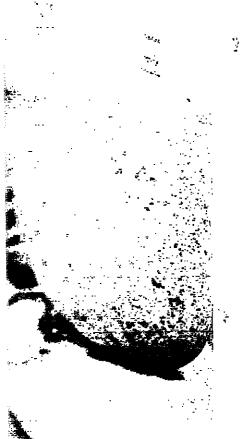
socialising.

The slip that led to his arrest, as in all the best detective stories, was absurdly banal. Annie Mallon, nee Flodin, applied to convert her Swedish driving licence into a French permit; the French authorities requested documents from their Swedish counterparts; the Swedes told Di Benedetto Flodin had resurfaced, and on June 13 a posse of gendarmes led Einhorn away from Guitry mill in handcuffs as aston-

ished neighbours watched.
The appeals court will issue a verdict on November 4, but Einhorn's lawyer, citing European human rights law, believes the Bordeaux judges will never permit the extradition



when in 150



ingle life do begin at fift

The cheerful broker of a breakthrough

Mo Mowlam, extrovert yet sensitive to the nuances of her Northern Ireland brief, is proving a doughty fighter for peace

Mowlam alights from Northolt and sprints to her vaiting car. The Northern Ireland Secretary is late for a meeting, and the London traffic is terrible because of a suspect package under a roundabout in Chiswick. This was the only time we could talk: she was flying back to Belfast yesterday morning for (among other things) a meeting with Ian Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party. "I'm hoping to get him to come to the talks." Would he be amenable? "I think not, but that doesn't mean you don't start trying."

Extrovert, open, sporty, a "tough old boot", in her own words, Dr Mowlam has made great strides in four months. David Trimble and Gerry Adams in the same building on Tuesday and glaring across the same table on Wednesday - that was a breakthrough, even if Trimble is implacable about actually talking with "that squalid gang of gunmen". Mo understands: she admires Trimble's courage and determination. "We've just got to keep going and build trust and confidence so all nine parties can move forward. Or is it ren?" She whizzes through them: "Alliance, Labour, Women, UDP, Sinn Fein, PUP, SDLP, UUP, We're still missing the DUP and the UKUP."

She is constantly astonished to discover how incurious the rest of us are - even political commentators - about details. We just want those talks to happen, and have no appetite for paragraphs on decommissioning or consent. "People want the talks to work, and they don't want any trouble from either

Arbitrating between the hard men is quite enough to contend with but nothing more eloquently proves her doughty spirit than her press. Tabloids may clean up their act on paparazzi, but they can still say what they like: it was the Mail and the Express who taunted Mo. earlier this year, about her increase in weight. She was forced to reveal. with commendable lack of irritation, the chemotherapy, radiotherapy and steroid treatment she was having for a non-malignant brain tumour. Until then she'd told only her husband and Tony Blair. When her hair fell out she had simply looked up "Wigs" in the Yellow Pages and found a place where she could buy them off the peg.

Under her colourful headscarf I can see strands of her own hair. In another few weeks she will have her blond locks back and will keep them short: it's such a relief not to have to wash and blow-dry every morning. "And I have a clean bill of

health," she says.
But when she admitted to having lost her temper at Stormont on Tuesday night, The Times's Dr Stuttaford obliged with a diagnosis about crabbiness following brain tumours. Again Mo showed admirable restraint. "During these talks we've had many hours of difficult discussion late into the night, and I'm only human. I think to lose it once in months of negotiation is prefty good going.

"I didn't argue. I stood up and



said, 'I find this level of abuse unacceptable, I'm going to go out and keep my temper for two minutes and then I'll be back, and that's what I did. It was controlled frustration. And when I came back in they'd left. But I'm not pleased with it, and I'll try not to do it

n her schooldays, she remembers debating "The Northern Ireland problem insoluble. Discuss." When the present Troubles began, and Jim Callaghan sent the troops into Northern reland in August 1969, she was at Durham University, much more interested in CND.

But soon after she won her seat in Redear in 1987, Neil Kinnock promoted her to the front hench, as a spokesman on Northern Ireland. so she got to know the province, and learned circumspection. "I often get asked if I have Catholic or Protestant roots. In Northern Ireland people want to know if you're for or against them, and if you have family on one side or another. Because I have neither, I get a fair bit of criticism. But it's probably an advantage to communicate with both sides without any historical baggage,'

But as Gerry Fitt once said, if you stand in the middle of the road you get knocked down, "Yes, It's not always comfortable and sometimes it alienates one side or another. But I will live with that."

When she and Adams shook hands this summer, he said he hoped she would be the last Secretary of State for Northern Ireland. She promised to check the exact date for me and wrote "shook GA" on her hand with a ballpoint pen.

The first time he proffered his hand had been during an unexpected encounter two years ago, at the Washington economic conference when Adams and Patrick Mayhew met. "The next night I was standing by the dinner table and out of the corner of my eye I caught Adams coming towards me. What to do? I thought, you can't cut and run or you look a complete wimp. He came up with arm outstretched and said. Could I give you my condolences for the death of Harold Wilson? Now in that situation you put your hand out and say Thank you for that'.' The day after Labour's general

election victory, she lost no time in getting into the streets of sunny Belfast, being greeted warmly on all sides: a graphic indication of her determination to fling her energy into this unenviable new job, and of the touchy-feeliness of the new regime. Also a distinct change of style from her predecessor's. She praises Patrick Mayhew to

the skies, but he could never reach out to people like that, with his plummy voice and his command-ing height. "A lovely man, a really good man," she says fondly, "but just too tall. We all come to life with different skills and limitations. I can't sing, I can't dance, I can't write, I can't spell; but something I can do is get on with people.

People drive me and I want to et the best I can for them. classless, you see." When she graduated from Durham, she invited her college cleaner along because she'd never been to a graduation ceremony before She was born in Southall, the

daughter of a postal worker, and the family moved to Coventry when she was 11. At her comprehensive school she was made head girl she says because she was wayward and they wanted to tame her. Her history teacher, Miss Morley, inspired the girls to talk and argue. She once turned up to hear Mo speak in Bournemouth, and sat in the front row in a turquoise suit and pillarbox hat "and I'm sure she's never voted Labour" She met her husband, Jon Nor-

ton, a banker, when he was



fundraising in the City for the Labour Party in the 1980s. "He was then married with kids. Then four vears later I met him again and he line of business I have to make that distinction."

Late in August she and her husband escaped to a rented house on a Spanish mountainside for peace and solitude, resolutely avoiding other Brits - she was not far from Cecil Parkinson's place, in fact - so they knew nothing of Diana's death until four days after the event, when her secretary rang to ask whether she wanted to go to the funeral. "What funeral?" asked

She has also managed, throughout these tough weeks, not to resort to smoking again. Having smoked since her teens, she'd tried everything to stop — being sponsored by constituents, going to hypnotists, chewing Nicorette and smoking at

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it once in months of negotiation is pretty good going 9

the same time. "But I've now done it on my own: and I don't crave it at all. I think of the money I save and I'm back to swimming, and I feel healthier again."

I told her that Robert Harris had said on Newsnight that he thought his friend Peter Mandelson would do well as Northern Ireland Secretary. She laughed and said that it was not a job that many of her colleagues want; but she'd wanted

ing over illness, and victory in the placable enemies "bedded down" by spring, and a referendum on an agreed settlement by next May Some say next May is too quick, but you must have goals to give the talks a momentum. And we are certainly in the best position this "It's going to be up and down for

some time yet. The only way to get through is not to treat it as glory days and glum days, or wallow in the glory or the glumness, just treat every one the same, as in that Kipling poem ..." (the one about meeting triumph and disaster and treating them the same).

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BOUBLEL & SCHONBERGY

Established double act provide a bitter-sweet contrast

By ANN SCANLON

THE last time Oasis played in London was in November 1995. That two-night stint at Earls Court came just as their album (What's The Story) Morning Glory? was on its way to being a multimillion seller, but before the Gallaghers had become a daily fixture in the newspapers. Then came Knebworth, their coronation as British superstars. Now Oasis have re-turned to the relative intimacy of Earls Court to play three shows, supported by The Verve. The two bands have a history of

playing together, which is slightly odd because both have long cherished an ambition of being the best

ROCK

Oasis/The Verve Earls Court

in the world. Indeed. The Verve's album A Northern Soul should have made it clear that they were

one of Oasis's few rivals. The Verve imploded in August 1995 but returned this summer with the triumphant, string-laden single Bitter Sweet Symphony. With their third album, Urban Hymns, out on Monday, they are well on their way to playing at

Earls Court on their own. However, on the first night at least, there was something disconcerting about watching Richard Ashcroft trying to make his big soulful songs connect emotionally with a still half-filled stadium of vaguely interested Oasis fans. There were people equally keen to see The Verve but the only songs that seemed to elicit any response

were the two recent singles.

The contrast between the muted

reaction to The Verve and the arrival of Oasis could not have been clearer: cue the lights, the colour, the larger-than-life set, the audience screams. Liam Gallagher immediately asserted his supremacy by prowling around the stage, clenching his fist and screaming at the crowd "Come on!" — which they did. The singer went with the flow, climbing on a specially constructed bar during Roll With the stage, booting his amplifier over during the encore, and sometimes staring directly into the camera at his feet, so that his huge projected image seemed to be singing personally to each individual in the crowd. For all the talk of the new darker

mood in Britain, this show was all about celebration. Noel Gallagher might have ded-

icated the band's recent single to their support act and asked, "D'you know what I mean about The Verve?" But most people didn't have a clue. They did. however, know exactly what he meant when he came to the end of his final solo, raised his guitar above his head - half in parody and flicked a parting V-sign.

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Is Hague a one-night stand-in?

Party reform will be the real test for the Tory leader, says **Tim Hames**

ast month Labour marked 100 days in office. It did so in a carnival atmosphere. William Hague endured a rather less rapturous anniversary. One can only hope that Ffion has a better honeymoon.

The headlines of this September may disappear as quickly as they surfaced. The issue that will really shape Mr Hague's leadership over the next 100 weeks is the one he placed at the centre of his leadership bid: internal party reform. If this fails to impress either Tory activists or the wider electorate, his tenure will seem uncertain.

The Hague project embraces the entire structure of the Conservative Party but two key questions will largely define the enterprise: the method by which the Conservative leader is selected and the means by which parliamentary candidates are chosen. These matters will dominate the minds of activists when the Conservative Party conference opens in Blackpool.

In both cases a balance has to be struck between two sets of interests. This is especially stark in the case of leadership selection. The Conservatives have historically been the defenders of parlia-

mentary sovereignty. This does not lit The Tories easily with the nohave always tion of mass party democracy. If the opposed general election had not eliminated the radical Tories from Scotland and Wales or change decimated them in urban England, it is

unlikely that such reform would have been contemplated. Nonetheless, the issue now is how change should be implemented.

Numerous proposals have

Numerous proposals have been floated. These centre on some sort of electoral college with (varying) proportions al-located to MPs and ordinary members. This device seeks to blend two features: the specialist knowledge that only MPs can have, and the need for widespread appeal. These schemes all contain a common flaw. Whatever the percentages adopted, the possibility would exist of the two components coming to alternative outcomes. That would create a crisis for whoever won the election. Labour has had the fortune to avoid this disaster so far. The Tories should not push their luck.

A better blend can be borrowed from the United States. In several states, a small number of party officials produce a shortlist of candidates who are then placed before the wider public. In effect, this is what happens in Conservative parliamentary candidate se-lection at present. Tory MPs should hold two preliminary leadership ballots. The first should eliminate all the contenders bar three. The second should permit any aspirant who registered more than 25 per cent support among parliamentarians to enter a decisive contest conducted on the principle of one member, one vote. Such a formula would allow discretion and democracy their due role and display deference to Tory tradition. It should also preclude the need to submit the Conservative Party Chairman to mass franchise. That exercise is unnecessary for a post of this nature and a virtual invitation to internal division.

Local party selection needs far less dramatic surgery. The "Tatton factor" has been much overblown by those who would like to reduce the autononly of local associations. It was the Conservative Party centrally which first put Neil Hamilton on its candidates list, and the Tories in Westminster who refused to remove the whip from him. In the absence of such action, the choice made by Cheshire Conservatives was perfectly prop-er. There is a case for allowing Central Office a limited power of veto, in exceptional circumstances, over those who would carry the party colours. If the approved list was more tightly constructed and submitted to continuous appraisal, such re-

The Tories should, though, be rather more concerned about the Tina fac-

medial action from the centre

should be rare indeed.

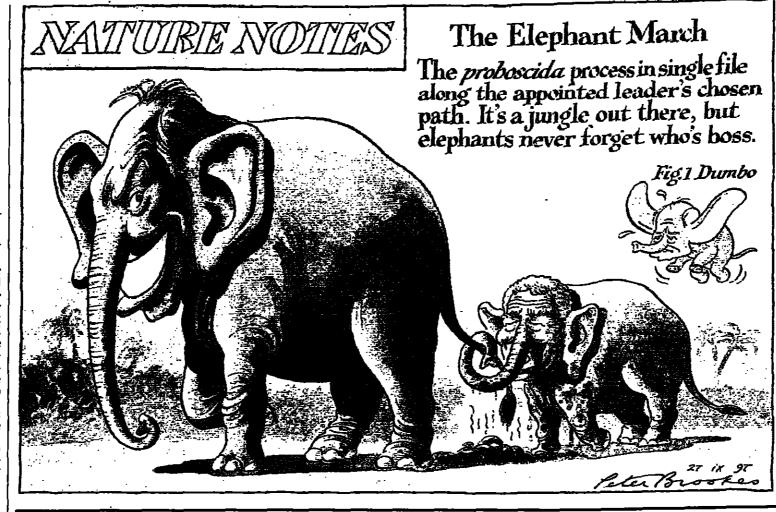
about the disparity in female representation at Westminster between the two major parties is stark and of more than mere symbolic importance. Cultural and institutional factors within the Conservative Party

trast. The party as a whole needs to display the will to address this imbalance. Allwomen shortlists would be wrong in principle and legally contestable in practice. But the Conservatives had all-male shortlists in more than 80 per cent of selection contests before the last election. In all constituencies where the party exceeds a certain size, the association meeting should choose between a shortlist of three or four contenders with both sexes represented.

The means by which the

Conservative Party is

redesigned will be taken as a wider reflection on Mr Hague's leadership qualities. If the reforms he promotes are taken as unduly timid, or poorly designed in the face of adverse comment, then comparisons with his catastrophic predecessor will follow. The crisis at the centre of the Conservative Party that started seven years ago when Michael Heseltine challenged Margaret Thatcher will continue. There is little prospect of recovery for the Right if that persists. The Conservatives have always opposed revolutionary change but quietly adopted it for their own affairs when the occasion appeared sufficiently urgent. Mr Hague will need to be bold if these 100 days are not to prove a prelude to his Waterloo.



Who are the barbarians?

am against primitive punishment. I am against it whether the victim is male or female, British or foreign, guilty or innocent, nurse, drug dealer or common thief. Inch by inch humanity claws its way up the ladder of civilisation. When a rung snaps, we groan. We are feeding to the unlikely

gran. We are that close to the brink.

I am not referring to the unlikely execution and flogging of two British nurses in Saudi Arabia. I refer to a punishment which received less publicity amid yesterday's anti-Arab hysteria. A British judge. Gabriel Hutton, ordered that a pregnant 17-year-old from Gloucester, in jail for shoplifting, should have her baby removed from her in the delivery room at birth so she could go back to jail to complete her sentence. She had pleaded guilty to stealing four shirts worth £60 from Marks & Spencer.

I venture that most foreigners

would use the word barbaric of this punishment. In Saudi Arabia, pregnant women are automatically reprieved for two years after giving birth. Britain is one of the last European countries routinely to jail people for minor property crimes. This is one reason why it has the highest and most costly prison population in Europe, and probably why recidivism is rife. The shirts may have cost Marks & Spencer £60. They will have cost the taxpayer some £20,000. This is hudicrous.

Most Britons are inured to the

rouelty of a penal tradition still obsessed with retribution. They are penologically illiterate. Most would read about the 17-year-old, shrug and say she deserved it. She was a persistent offender. Her father was in prison and her mother a convict. The judge went out of his way to remark that being deprived of the baby was seen by him as part of the punishment. He said: "You deserve a real punishment to try to break once and for all this habit of stealing other people's property... only a custodial sentence can be justified."

Set aside the crude lashing of maternity to the wheel of societal revenge, set aside any trauma to the baby, this is a disproportionate response to stealing four shirts. It is the emotional equivalent of chopping off a hand. It is medieval. As for whether separation from a new baby is more or less likely to cure a case of kleptomania, even for just two weeks in this case, I would rather have a professional than a judicial view.

One of the reasons why civilised

Never mind Saudi Arabia. Our penal system is an international disgrace

cultures abandoned lynch law and mob rule is that they preferred their law and order mediated by justice. Mobs regress. They connect a belief in a golden age of order with a more ruthless regime of punishment, a connection for which there is no shred of evidence. Britain has always ranked far down the league in penal reform. As long ago as 1215, Pope Innocent III sought to stamp out the northerners' obsession with trial by ordeal, claiming that it was ridiculous to invoke scorched flesh as a sign of guilt or innocence. (He instituted more scientific judicial cross-examination, namely the thumbscrew and the rack.) Britain was still flogging men for homosex-

wars. The preferred method of execution, hanging by a rope, was seen abroad as barbaric compared with decapitation or firing squad. The last British prison whipping was in 1967 but Britons could legally beat children in

uality between the

school until 1986.

The protest at the Saudi sentences

is vulnerable to hypocrisy on almost every score. I wonder if those now raising a hue and cry would do the same were the prisoners male bankers rather than female nurses. At this moment, a British businessman is facing electrocution on death row in Florida for a double murder 11 years ago that all seem to agree he did not commit. The Briton, Chris Maharaj, has the misfortune to be non-white, male and not a nurse. He appears to have been stitched up for a murder and tried by a judge later arrested for corruption, but had insufficient money to pursue his defence. Britons view America differently

Britons view America differently from Saudi Arabia. The former's penchant for frying alive those who might (or might not) have committed murder is a minor blot on the transatlantic friendship, best not mentioned in polite company. It is even mildly glamorous, a sign that the Wild West spirit is not dead. Besides, American justice is America's business. That is why no British embassy officials or tabloid reporters are

beating a path to Florida to plead Mr Maharaj's case (although, to be fair, Channel 4 has done so). Moral outrage is an easy cloak for prejudice. Americans are good Christian people, so we should not complain when they behave like, say, Arabs.

I have some sympathy with the thesis that the next global conflict will be between the West and Muslim fanaticism. Recent outrages from Algeria and Egypt through Iraq and Afghanistan, even as far as Indonesia, suggest an unstable region with immense capacity for international mischief. The fate of those who risk their careers and even lives in the primitive politics of Saudi Arabia should concern us.

should concern us.
But that concern
can only be effective
if delicately arriculated. Rubbishing
Arab dictators may
make good copy at
home. But Saddam
Hussein. Colonel
Gaddafi. President
Assad and the
ayatollahs all testify

that Western abuse is a heady elixir of power.

The new British Foreign Secretary.

Robin Cook, fell into the abuse trap by initially attacking the sentence as unacceptable", a favourite Foreign Office word for what Britain no longer has any option but to accept. The Saudi verdicts were a gift to every chauvinist rabble-rouser. But xenophobic outrage - not. I note. directed at the Australian brother and accessory to the outrage - does not free prisoners. Most observers were convinced from the start that, should the nurses be found guilty. they would somehow be freed in the end. The only sure thing was that anti-Arab abuse would make this harder rather than easier. By yesterday Mr Cook had calmed his words.

Even in the best circumstances, nation is ill-advised to preach morality unto nation. Of course governments must defend their nationals who are attacked abroad, even when they are victims of a properly constituted legal system. They are equally right to ban their own citizens to profit from injustices visited by foreign governments on their own

peoples. The selling of anti-personnel equipment to Indonesia was a blot on the last Tory Government which Mr Cook has commendably reversed.

But Britain is not well-placed to criticise the penal practices of other

criticise the penal practices of other states. In the same week that his colleague was protesting the fate of the Saudi nurses, the Home Secretary was proposing to incarcerate parents for the misdeeds of their children. He was filling a revival of a prison hulk off Portland Bill. He showed no inclination to cut the prison population or to stop squandering money on new jails. Indeed, he is proposing a "war on drugs" the sole consequence of which will be to expose ever more young people to what is now the nation's hortest drugs market, the Home Office prison service.

In last year's Douglas-Home essay, the former Chief Inspector of Prisons, Sir Stephen Tumim, reviewed the verdicts of judges from Britain. Germany. Sweden, France and The Netherlands on a given set of crimes. The findings were stark. British judges were by far the most inclined to imprison. Continental judges were more concerned to protect society from reoffending, and were thus more aware of the effect of punishment on the criminal. Even where prison was the verdict. British sentences were longer than abroad without any obvious benefit to the crime rate. Few civilised countries nowadays incarcerate those convicted of non-violent crime, or they do so only in remedial prisons. They know that a jail is the last place likely to reform a criminal.

Britain has some of the most crowded and backward prisons in the developed world. It has packed cells, brutalised remand centres, conditions so explosive that many governors tolerate the drugs epidemic as a palliative.

Britain still locks up fine-defaulters

and shuts away for seven years the tiny minority of soft-drug sellers who get caught. The Government is going down the costly minimum sentences route, pandering to public opinion with no basis in theory for such innovation. Not to mince words, Britain has emerged from the past decade with a policy on punishment scarcely more sophisticated than that of Third World countries it loves to pillory.

There may be a beam in our Saudi brother's eye. In our own there is a mighty more.

Dunkirk spirit in the desert

Giles Whittell on

a very British

record-breaker

t is easy to misunderstand Richard Noble. Stalking the Nevada

ard Noble. Stalking the Nevada desert in denim shorts, with a black briefcase on the end of each arm and a ten-tonne titanium car streaking over the silt at more than 700 miles an hour, he is determined, you might think, to mastermind the first supersonic drive in history.

He is, but only incidentally. He swears there is a larger aim than

He is, but only incidentally. He swears there is a larger aim than sheer speed to his dusty endeavour, and it is one that may touch some raw nerves among those who have denied him support in the past. "It's all about beating the British system." he booms, squinting into the sun, when asked what makes him stay the dangerous course. One wonders if he is serious. He is British, after all. His dedicated team is British. Most of his sponsors are British. So, is he serious? "Absolutely," he says.

It is 14 years since this big,

It is 14 years since this big, perplexing man set his own speed record at Black Rock. That achievement made him a hero in the local bars and put his first Thrust car in a Coventry motoring museum, but it somehow failed to mark him out as a safe bet for the major corporate backing on which his brand of adventure usually depends. He talks frequently, if obliquely, of a "bad experience" with the City, when, apparently, funding was withdrawn from a company he set up in the 1980s to build a new twin-engined aircraft. He later found he was not to be trusted with adequate sponsorship for his Atlantic Sprint Blue Riband challenge, nor for the Thrust SSC project after its first disappointing outing to Jordan last year.

That mistrust is now mutual and deep. Indeed, at times it threatened to overwhelm his elation at leading a successful new land speed record bid on Thursday. "I set this up as one of the most exciting global corporate promotions of all time. It's working, but still the corporates don't come, and still we're on a knife-edge financially," he said. "I'm sick of begging."

In the rush of vindication, a leader

is entitled to vent anger as well as relief. But it is worth asking which corporate promotions manager would have been wise to pour his shareholders' money into a project fraught with technical difficulties and intended to propel one man from nowhere to precisely nowhere at appalling risk to himself and arguable benefit to others.

NAME OF

It is in the nature of risk-taking, tiers of the late 20th century, to involve snubs and logistical rightrope-walking as well as risk itself. Richard Noble has emerged, nonetheless, a triumphant winner. The secrets of his success against huge odds are various. He enlisted one of the world's leading aerodynamicists in Ron Ayers and built his team around a core of RAF professionals. But he kept it alive by turning to his real constituency — a 5,000-strong supporters' club and legions of followers on the Internet, who between them, with myriad donations and souvenir purchases, funded 20 per cent of his Black Rock expedition. This last-minute surge of support

from the private and anonymous could without hyperbole be likened to the spirit of Dunkirk. With its help Mr Noble has certainly upended one view of the British — as inspired amateurs—since he has trounced his rival. the Spirit of America. in organisation as well as speed. But his cause is still more British than perhaps he knows.

Bell push

hat king of spin, Sir Tim Bell, has been called in to rescue the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund from rising criticism. Sir Tim's strategists will start urgent talks with senior organisers of the fund next week. This follows a very public rumpus when one of the Duke of Edinburgh's charities gave warning that the new fund would do "deep and lastine" damage to other needy

causes. This time Lowe Bell, which refuses work paying less than £20,000 a month, is giving advice free. The Memorial Fund has already received more than £8 million in the first ten days of its existence, with proceeds from Candle in the Wind and video sales yet to be totted up.

But Action Research (patron:

HRH the Duke of Edinburgh; says that the flood of cash cascading into the fund's coffers is diverting donations from them — "robbing Peter to pay Paul".

Enter Sir Tim, who flourished as

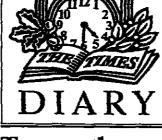
Baroness Thatcher's PR maestro and picked up biggish clients such

as Buck House and Boris Yeltsin. Indeed, his presentational talents enabled him to ride out unwelcome publicity over an aberration in his private life best not dwelt on here. "The fund is taking money from the public and so it needs to present a public face, which is where we come in." Bells growls down the line of my Bakelite. "We are delighted to be involved."

John Redwood offered copies of a racy Edwina Currie novel to a second-hand bookshop last week. "You must be joking," came the reply. "She has even autographed them. No one will huy them."



"I know who you remind me of . . . Kate Moss"



Trump that

PEACE can be but a dim hope for weary citizens of war-ravaged Croatia after the latest word from that society evergreen. Ivana Trump: she intends to start her own hotel chain there.

She has just secured the countries.

She has just scoured the country's bomb sites in search of suitable plots to build swell hotels for holidaying plutocrats.

"Ivana was an official guest of

"Ivana was an official guest of the Government," purts her travelling companion, the inevitable Liz Brewer. "They are very eager for her to attract the right sort of tourist here. Her friends will love

ONEW TIMES
Out next month: a new book by Colin Spencer, The Gay Kama Sutra. explores the sexual jry of biting, scratching and much, much else. His previous work was a study linking homosexuality and vegetarianism.

it." And of this blood-stained land, she says: "It's just so unspoilt." Until now, perhaps.

• THIS proves that Cherie Blair is no normal woman. She has written to the estate agents who sold her Islington home — to thank them.

Luvvie trouble GRUMPY dons at Newnham Coll-

ege. Cambridge, are thumbing through yellowing copies of their rulebook to see whether they can sack the actress Emma Thompson, whom they boldly made an honorary fellow a year ago.

"Emma persistently promised

that she would lecture the students on how to turn a book into a film," rages an irate college bluestocking. "But there is still no sign of her. We are beginning to despair that she



No lecture: Emma Thompson

will ever honour her word."
The college has had more than its share of controversy, with a summer fuss over the appointment of its fellow Rachel Padham, who was horn a man but is now a woman. Almost, Varsity seems to be growing racier than vaudeville,

• WITH commendable concern for the taxpayer. Lord Irvine of Lairg, the Lord Chancellor, insists that I am too pessimistic in predicting that repairs to his residence will cost as much as £2 million. The approved estimate is £650,000 and he is confident the budget will be met. If so, I must borrow his builders. I shall monitor their progress.

Tucking in POOR underfed BBC toilers.

Gavin Esler, the reporter now rivalling Jeremy Paxman as Newsnight's male crumpet, visited Blomberg publishers this week. "He insisted on seeing himself out," says one there. "Later I found him in the kitchens, stuffing himself with fruit. He was behaving as if he hadn't seen food for days."

● OLD TIMES

"My home and my tamily matter a great deal to me...! need the security."

Edwina Currie, the former Tory MP, speaking in 1988, She has just announced her separation from her husband to concide with the launch of her novel She's Leaving Home



Georgie girl: Cadbury heiress George Taylor turned a few heads

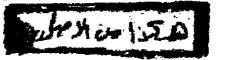
PARTY TIME. The king prawns and half-starved shrimps that comprise the world of couture swam into the capital's party scene last week to celebrate the start of London Fashion Week. Some posed, some networked, some hitched. Others just looked ill.

Among them was Anita Pallenberg, Mick Jagger's old friend. At the age of 51, she has resurfaced to undertake a fashion course at Central St Martins School of Art.

"My first collection might be ready for next season," she threatened. "My designs are offbear—silver, black and powder blue." None the wiser, my attention drifted to the so-called

"supermodel" Elle Macpherson but conversation stalled rather when she enthused about shoes with red soles. Much (male) interest was expressed in George Taylor. 21, the Cadbury heiress and latest discovery of catwalk fixer Izzie Blow. Brought up a Quaker, she is being ushered around the shows by Mama. In the parlance of the rich kid. she ventured: "Some designers have been so rude — that ghastly David Fielden dressed me in silly pants and laughed as I was bigger than the other girls. When I've saved up enough from modelling I'll go and study in New York."

Jasper Gerard



FOOLS RUSH IN

A snap decision on EMU would destroy all trust in Blair

As he sets out for the Labour Party conference in Brighton, Tony Blair has the look of a man whose conquest of Britain is more assured with every week in power. The conquest of Europe must seem daily more enticing and more achievable and the thrust of Mr Blair's strategy has already been declared. It is to use the example of Britain's economic success to win over its partners to the flexible market doctrines that will shorten their dole queues and restore Europe's international competitiveness.

Fate has fired the starting gun for this campaign by giving Britain the six-month presidency of the European Union in January. Because this straddles the date when EÚ governments must decide who joins the first wave of economic and monetary union. the Prime Minister was bound by this autumn to come under intense pressure to accept that a commitment on joining EMU is needed to enhance his leverage.

Mr Blair was elected on the understanding that he would defend British interests in Europe as robustly as any Tory. He must keep the presidency and EMU firmly compartmentalised in his own mind if he is not to be bounced into a step that would break the precious bond of trust with the country that he has so successfully forged. To enter EMU at all would be to hazard Britain's prosperity and its future on a project which is politically flawed and economically ill-judged. It would manacle the nation's freedom to act. To enter in the wake of the first wave would be to make a mockery of the claim that Labour's position is purely pragmatic.

The City's belief that the pro-EMU camp in the Cabinet will triumph is already proof against No 10's efforts publicly to counter that, while all options remain open, the Government is minded to wait and see whether EMU is a success before deciding on British membership. Even after the inevitable disclaimers from No 10 and the Treasury, a Financial Times report yesterday that the Government was poised for a positive "declaration of intent" on joining EMU soon after the January 1999 launch date was enough to depress sterling and send the FTSE 100 soaring 160 points.

Since both trends are exactly what the Government would wish, the position of such influential friends of EMU as Gordon

Brown, Lord Simon of Highbury and the Confederation of British Industry will be strengthened. Robin Cook, the Cabinet's ranking sceptic, has accepted that Britain should not stand aloof from a successful EMU; and the task of defining success and assessing the economic costs and benefits of joining lies in Mr Brown's domain. If this was a kite released from somewhere near the Treasury roof, it caught a fair wind. The Prime Minister should redouble his guard.

Mr Blair's own position on British membership of EMU is agnostic. He is untroubled by the principle of surrendering Britain's economic sovereignty, wrongly believing this argument to be an anachronism in a globalised economy. On the national economic interest, he is open to persuasion. The politics of EMU is what matters to him. His overriding concern is to secure the full two terms in office that, he is convinced, are essential if new Labour is to set its stamp on Britain. He may think that the political bottom line of deciding to join EMU in the lifetime of this Parliament is that Labour must first fight and win a referendum - and do so decisively and

country can be softened up for early entry by a statement of readiness in principle to join. set a firm timetable would be too risky, argue that the Government should seek an but asked the British people also to give its assent in principle to EMU and leave the timing to the Government. That would seal Labour's pact with business, Mr Blair would be told: and with the Tories disorganised and Labour's standing in the country so high, he should seize the tide of fortune. But if he heeds this advice, he will be swept onto

at the cost of his outstanding political asset, his reputation for straight dealing. On the most momentous decision this country has faced since the war, he would have acted as a political opportunist. He would never be forgiven. He would not deserve to be.

MANDELA ON TRIAL

The President himself must stand up to his ex-wife

In defiant mood, and with considerable theatre. Winnie Madikizela-Mandela presented herself yesterday to South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission. She declared her intention to see "matters settled" and demanded the right to public hearings. The commission continued its incamera deliberations but meekly acceded to her request. The stage is now set for an extraordinary encounter in November. It is not one that either Nelson Mandela or the African National Congress will relish.

Mrs Mandela's approach sits in uneasy contrast with the accusations against her. She has long been directly implicated in the murder of Stompie Moeketsi Seipei, a 14year-old boy who died at the hands of her infamous "Mandela United" football club in Soweto eight years ago. The recent revelations by Katiza Cebekhulu, a crucial witness to those events, has served to reinforce past suspicions. An additional 17 counts of gross human rights abuse including seven murders involving Mrs Mandela are now in front of the commission.

Mrs Mandela has portrayed her willingness to face open examination as proof of her innocence. Others suspect that she will swiftly be able to turn proceedings into a rally bordering on farce. Those once tempted to serve as witnesses will allow fear to trump courage. This circus will now take place only weeks before an ANC conference at which Mrs Mandela is a candidate for ANC deputy president. If elected, she would likely emerge as South Africa's Deputy President in two vears' time.

Neither the investigation of the charges against her nor her own political campaign

fashion. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission was created to examine and if the facts merited it - absolve violent acts committed under, and as a consequence of, apartheid. It has performed a difficult task with skill. Under no circumstances can the allegations of killings, kidnappings and torture that have been collected against Mrs Mandela be considered an unfortunate part of the struggle for national liberation. The proper place for them is South Africa's judicial system and the result of any convictions obtained should be imprisonment.

the legal process. The movement has consistently failed to stand up to Mrs Mandela. This has progressively strengthened her position. Mr Mandela's reluctance to deal with his former spouse is understandable. But he and his anointed successor, Thabo Mbeki, now face the real prospect that she will shortly climb to a post from which it be impossible to constrain her. That may be avoided only if the President ensures that one single opponent stands against her and if he and Mr Mbeki crusade for that figure.

Mr Mandela has embraced his former opponents and is the living symbol of South Africa's settlement. He has encouraged the reorientation of the ANC from Marxism to markets. He has set a powerful example in international affairs. This outstanding legacy will be drastically undermined if he leaves office with Mrs Mandela anticipating power when many South Africans believe she should be awaiting prison. The ANC cannot expect to be taken seriously at home

FAT CAN BE A FEMININE VIRTUE

This British television series roasts American food humbugs

Two fat ladies from the United Kingdom are making a splash in the United States. A new series of their television programme Two Fat Ladies begins on the BBC on Monday. It features typically extravagant canapes and name-dropping while preparing for a reception by the Brazilian Ambassador. And the British cult following for this larder-than-life cooking programme will enjoy (vicariously) blinis with lashings of sour cream, caviare and cigarette ash, louche old-girl asides, and trebles of a Brazilian drink made from rum and lime at the Dorchester afterwards.

Their success on American television, as our US Editor reports today, may seem at first taste more surprising. Their programmes have just had their première on the Food Network and have taken the American critics by storm. And this is odd, because these British heavyweight cooking champs are the opposites to all that is fashionable on American television. Even their name is wrong. As they might drawl,

"ladies" sounds like a public convenience. As cooks, Jennifer Paterson and Clarissa Dickson Wright are parodically as well as politically incorrect. Their recipes are greedy

their not obviously clean fingers, which are encrusted with nail varnish and antique rings. They do not believe in eating on an empty stomach. As television foody stars perform, they are both old, (there is no euphemising it) fat, indiscreet, and outrageously funny about the narcissistic conventional wisdom of a healthy diet. They dislike vegetables and hate vegetarians and dismiss modern hygiene as a terrible mistake. They proclaim that their mission is to cure the British and Americans of the Puritan ethic, to teach them how to enjoy life.

The British fat ladies go down a treat in America partly because they confirm American images of British eccentricity and snobbery, but also because most Americans do not conform to their television image of slim, young, exquisite salad-chewing joggers and drinkers of mineral water. T-bone steaks overlapping their plates and pecan pie à la mode also form part of the American dream. By some standards of Des Moines and Miami. our Two Fat Ladies are comparatively svelte: Two Average Women.

without losing political momentum. Mr Blair is now expected to state Britain's position before the December 31 deadline for saying whether Britain will join in January 1999. He may easily be persuaded that the From there, the slippery slope steepens. The Brown camp could, while conceding that to "enabling" referendum, which set no date

the political rocks.

Mr Blair might win the referendum, but

should be allowed to continue in this

This is as much a test for the ANC as for

or abroad if it allows that to happen.

with cream and brandy, fat and gossip. They smoke and sing while they cook, and lick

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Lessons of Tory leadership ballot

From Mr David Hurford-Jones

Sir, As a Conservative Party activist for more than 25 years I suspect that the letter in your columns from Mr Norman Lamont in support of William Hague (September 22; see also letters, September 20 and 24) may have been the kiss of death.

We all know that reform of the party structure is long overdue. But the most important element of that reform is to reform the system for electing the leader, so that the leader has the authority that comes from endorsement by the membership.

William Hague was not the choice of the constituencies and he was only the first choice of 25 per cent of our few remaining MPs. He promised during his campaign for the leadership that when the system had been reformed he would put himself up for reelection.

It is clear that by linking endorsement of his leadership to the outline of his reform agenda he is trying to avoid having to stand for re-election under the reformed electoral system against other candidates.

Furthermore, William Hague has been arguing against the Scottish devolution referendum on the ground that such a referendum should come after the details have been hammered out. But in this case we have been asked to vote for his reforms in advance of that.

It is all very unfortunate, but let us hope we can put these matters right when we have nearly five years before another election.

Yours faithfully, DAVID HURFORD-JONES (Chairman, Burford Branch, West Oxfordshire Conservative Association), Island House, Burford, Oxfordshire. September 26.

From Mr Ronald Forrest

Sir, A principal objection to the radical changes proposed for future Conservative leadership elections is that the average constituency member is far less knowledgeable of political matters than MPs and certainly lacks their experience of daily contact with potential leaders.

One would therefore hope that the party will not accept the proposal to have a "one person, one vote" electoral system. But even an electoral college allowing party members a limited percentage of the total vote must be suspect for the same reasons.

Nobody could deny, on the other hand, that there are dearly valid objections to the present situation in which MPs representing only a quarter of the nation's constituencies decide who the next Conservative leader should be.

A solution would be to have an electoral college consisting of a variable percentage of the votes coming from MPs (depending on how many there are at the time of a leadership election) and the rest from the other Conservative candidates and Conservative Members who retired from Parliament at the previous general election. This system would have two indis-

putable advantages. In almost all cases parliamentary candidates and former MPs have a much deeper knowledge of politics than constituency members, and since all these people will have been chosen by constituency members they would surely make ideal representatives.

Yours faithfully, RONALD FORREST (Chairman, Preseli Pembrokeshire Conservative Association). Delfryn, Castle Morris, Nr Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire September 25.

From Mr Carl Reader

Sir, I am incensed by the patronising comments of Sir Julian Critchley (letter, September 24) concerning one member, one vote. The people who pay "a paltry annual subscription" are also the people who knock on the doors at election times to get the likes of Sir Julian elected. We are also expected to raise money for the constituency associations.

The members of the ward committee which I chair wholeheartedly support William Hague's plans to give members a greater say in the formation of policy and in the election of the party leader. There is no alternative to one member, one vote. We are able to choose who we want to govern this country, yet are judged by Sir Julian to be incapable of choosing our party

My hope is that the new Conservative Party will concentrate on becoming a truly mass-membership party. Yours faithfully,

CARL READER. 4 Ketelbey Rise, Old Hatch Warren, Basingstoke, Hampshire. September 24.

Feuding ministers

From Mr Alan Thompson

Sir. Your front-page report today, Feuding ministers stall Blair reforms", brings comfort to those of us who were concerned that Frank Field might be eventually persuaded to surrender his legendary integrity in order to enhance the political security of others.

Yours faithfully, ALAN THOMPSON. Sun Haunt. Little Bealings, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

Church and State in Blair's Britain

ment's push towards modernisation

of British society.
It may be that the Church's estab-

lishment will continue, but moderni-sation means more for the Church

than simply "shoring up" its position.

The Church of England is not depen-

dent on its influence on the Govern-

ment, and if disestablishment is to

take place during the lifetime of a

Blair administration its work will con-

tinue. But the Church will undoubted-

ly find a way to carry on its spiritual

ministry to the nation, with or without

bishops sitting in the House of Lords.

only the form of tradition which reso-

nates with people, and the response to

the funeral service for Diana, Princess

of Wales, demonstrates that people do

turn to the Church in times of grief.

He should not forget that across the

spectrum of churchmanship the

Church is not dying. Indeed, both

Tony Blair and the Chancellor, Gor-

don Brown, owe their political inspi-

Interestingly, Mr Lloyd admits that

faith is evident at least on the evange

lical wing, but it can be seen across the

spectrum of churchmanship. Both

archbishops, from different ends of

that spectrum, are men of faith and

can be trusted to work with Mr Blair

to modernise the Church's relation-

ship with the State. However, this

does not mean that the Church is

"leaning Left". The Church does not depend on

Labour and, while it is clearly willing

to work with a Government that lis-

tens to its concerns, it would do well to

remember that it cannot slavishly nail

its colours to the new Labour mast.

The Church of England Newspaper,

ration to their faith.

Mr Lloyd seems to imply that it is

From Mr Paul H. Tipler

Sir, Few readers could disagree with John Lloyd's assertion (article, "Blair is now the kingmaker". September 19) that both the Crown and Church, or at least the institutions, are in their different ways "leaning Left" and "deeply exhausted". This is however rather different from stating that "they have lost their faith and need to be saved".

I am not qualified to pass comment on the state of the monarchy; but as a Christian and church member for over 20 years, I find in parts of the Church that there is greatly increasing faith and confidence.

Lloyd credits the evangelical wing of the Church with a semi-fundamentalist enthusiasm, but then dismisses its members as "unable to develop a working model of faith in which rational people could wholeheartedly believe". Knowing many such people from all walks of life. I regard this simplistic statement as patently untrue, even of much of the established

The Church has indeed become more radical; Jesus will always be radical compared to any current orthodoxy. It has therefore found some cummon ground with reforming elements within the new Labour Party. Surely this pro-active approach is a sign of modernising rather than shoring up the Church as Mr Lloyd sug-

The Church's lack of media lustre would now seem to indicate strength as opposed to weakness, with the majority of its activity carried out behind the scenes. I also tend to believe that Someone,

other than new Labour, will continue to inspire its relevance to today's society. Those of us within the Church view our future through the eyes of faith as well as sight. Yours faithfully,

PAUL H. TIPLER (Member, National Council, Movement for Christian Democracy). 3 Highfield Grove, Bristol, Avon. September 21.

Need for inquiries

From the Chief Executive of SANE

mental health tragedies are costly and

achieve little (report, September 23).

SANE would agree that most of the in-

quiries do report a total lack of com-

munication between agencies and

that any one health authority does not

appear to learn any lessons from its

However, what would happen if

there were no inquiries? It would be

rather like having an air crash and

not investigating the "black box" to

see how and why the accident occur-

red and allowing faulty aircraft to

continue to fly - with obvious conse-

quences. The argument that for every

crash thousands travel safely does not

justify shrugging our shoulders when

authorities concerned will take on

board the recommendations of the

inquiry and eventually mental health

In most instances the health

neighbour.

services may improve. Surely this is better than allowing a fragmented system to persist whereby a vulnerable, mentally ill person can suffer Sir. According to "experts" interviewed by Alex Frean, inquiries into such deterioration that he or she can commit homicide or, more likely, a

C. M. BLAKELY, Editor,

10 Little College Street, SW1.

Yours sincerely

September 19.

lonely suicide. I fully endorse Sir Louis Blom-Cooper in his reported conviction that inquiry teams should be given the right to revisit health authorities a aner the report to ensure that their recommendations have been implemented. That is the only way lessons might be learnt.

However, until those who are mentally ill get automatic access to treatment when they need it, for as long as they need it, then these tragedies will continue to happen.

The community has the right to know why and how the system failed sufferers, families and the public.

Yours sincerely MARJORIE WALLACE. Chief Executive, SANE, 199-205 Old Marylebone Road, NWI. September 24.

Sir, With regard to the letter from Mr

L. M. Oliver (September 15) concern-

ing the suicide of a teacher who had

been charged with possession of inde-

cent photographs of a child; it is cor-

rect that this is a summary offence (Section 160 of the Criminal Justice

Act 1988), but the penalty was increas-

ed with effect from February 3, 1995,

by virtue of Section 86 of the Criminal

offence is now six months' imprison-

Sir. The Russian Ambassador (letter,

September 18; see also letter. Septem-

ber 10) is quite correct to draw atten-

tion to the plight of Russian citizens seeking UK visas.

I have had contact with a large

number of Russian visitors over the

past twelve months. They have all

said that they were subjected to humi-

liating, lengthy and sometimes intimi-

datory interviews, with spouses often being interviewed separately. Many

had friends who were refused visas

All claim that getting a British visa

is an infinitely more difficult and

unpleasant task than obtaining a visa

from the US or another EU embassy,

and that Britain alone has a policy of

keeping Russian visitors to a mini-

Such a reputation cannot be helpful

for British business in what is be-

coming one of the world's most impor-

Adams Close, Surbiton, Surrey.

mdinan@compuserve.com

without any obvious reason.

mum.

tant markets.

Yours sincerely,

MARK DINAN.

28 Palace Court,

September 18.

The maximum penalty for the

Justice and Public Order Act 1994.

ment, or a fine, or both.

Yours faithfully, PHILIP A. FLEMING

(Crown prosecutor).

6 Acrefield Avenue,

Stockport, Cheshire.

Russian visas

From Mr Mark Dinan

Heaton Moor.

September 15.

Summary justice

From Mr Philip A. Fleming

Threat to Parliament

From Professor Emeritus L. Neville Brown

disaster happens.

Sir, Lord Scarman's sweeping statement (letter, September 17) that we have incorporated Community law into our law without threat to Parliament's sovereignty is hard to reconcile with the fate of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1988.

Passed by Parliament expressly to stop quota-hopping by Spanish fishermen, the Act became a dead letter when adjudged contrary to Community law.

Yours faithfully, L. NEVILLE BROWN (Professor Emeritus of Comparative Law). The University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham Bl5 2TT. September 17.

Saudi law From Mr Oliver Dines

Sir, The welfare of the British nurses

awaiting sentence in Saudi Arabia (letters, September 26) — and incident-ally the interests of British arms exporters - are not best served by our manipulating the decision of the Saudi judicial system as a means to criticise, question or undermine Islamic societies.

Both Sharia — a cornerstone of Islam and Saudi law - and Christianity embrace the virtues of compassion

Appeals for these qualities to be upheld by the empowered King Fahd will bear no weight if burdened by hate and prejudice — be it racial or religious. Yours sincerely, OLIVER DINES,

176 Shepcot, Cowper Gardens, N14. September 26.

Weekend Money letters, page 61

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number -0171-782 5046. e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

feathers flying From the Editor of The Church of England Newspaper From Mrs Sheila Jones Sir. John Lloyd is only half right. Certainly the Church is facing an impressive challenge in the Blair Govern-

Sir, City of London workers were not wrong in objecting to Sir James Stir-ling's design. Number One Poultry ("Was this worth three decades of argument?", Marcus Binney, Septem-

No 1 Poultry sets

ber 23) looks exactly as the artist's impression promised: like a stage set from Aida made of Battenberg cake.

Even more unsightly than 125 London Wall, the span of which adds insult to injury by blocking out the last bit of sky over the City, it is totally out of character, sympathy and architectural ethos with the City as a whole, let alone its hub. It jumps down your throat at every distant sighting from the streets fanning away from the

Whoever devises and sanctions these buildings should be locked in the Tower. Lucky Nicholas Ridley and James Stirling are released from the pain the rest will have to suffer every time we cross the Bank.

Yours sincerely SHEILA JONES, Old Broad Street Bureau Limited. 65 London Wall, EC2. September 23.

From Sir Peter Kemp

Sir. Can Marcus Binney have actually seen the new Number One Poultry? Does he remember just how awful the old Mappin & Webb building was? Has he got the imagination to see how appalling the alternative prismhaped affair would have been?

The new building is a vision of light and colour, something which uplifts the City and puts a spring in the stride of everyone who walks past it.

Yours etc. PETER KEMP. 2 Longton Avenue, SE26. September 23.

From Mr Edward J. O'Brien

Sir, Mr Marcus Binney will surely appreciate one great benefit of Number One Poultry. How are we and our children to judge what is good architectural design unless we are able to

observe the bad? I will never criticise the BBC building again.

Yours faithfully, EDWARD J. O'BRIEN, 48 Springfield, Cam, Gloucestershire. edobrien l@compuserve.com

From Miss Elizabeth Lewis

Sir, Perhaps it is the colour, cream and pink; or perhaps it is the bulging form and cavernous maw, or perhaps it is the name; but to me the new building suggests an oven-ready supermarket chicken.

Yours faithfully, ELIZABETH LEWIS, Frith Farm House, Frith Lane, Wickham. Hampshire. September 24.

Ask a silly question . . .

From Mr John McKibbin

Sir, In 1946 I recounted to a senior diplomat some of the questions put to me during the lengthy postwar examination for entry into the Foreign Service (letters, September 1, 10, 16, 20, 22). He commented: "What a waste of

time! In my day the answer to one question was enough - who's your bootmaker?" I quickly tucked my feet under the chair.

Yours faithfully. JOHN McKIBBIN. 31 Northway, NWII. September 23.

From Mr Mark Ashford

Sir, A candidate was undergoing the ordeal of the Admiralty Interview Board when the president, an Admiral or similarly terrifying figure. waved his hand at a map on the wall and invited him to "point to Murmansk". The candidate hadn't a clue. but, spying next to the map a photo of the Royal Family, he confidently stuck his finger on one of the corgis and said "It's that one, Sir!"

The interview concluded in breathless disarray and he went on to a successful career in the Senior Service. Yours faithfully,

MARK ASHFORD. 79 Oliver Street, Ampthill, Bedfordshire.

From Mrs Lesley Moule

Sir, My friend, being interviewed for a place to read geography at university, was given a piece of rock and asked what it was.

"A paperweight," she replied. Yours faithfully, LESLEY MOULE, 17 Rivett Close.

Baldock, Hertfordshire. September 22,

Thirsty work

From Dr George W. Scott

Sir. Celebrations are in order for the British team in Nevada on breaking the land speed record with 714mph (details, September 26). It is reported that the nearest bar is eight miles away across the desert. If they drive there it should take them 40 seconds.

Yours faithfully, GEORGE SCOTT, Pantiles,

Wilderness Road, Chislehurst, Kent. September 26.

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COURT CIRCULAR

BALMORAL CASTLE September 26: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh were represented by Admiral Sir Nicholas Hunt (Vice Admiral of the United Kingdom) at the Funeral of Admiral Sir Derek Empson (formerly Vice Admi-ral of the United Kingdom) which was held in the Church of St Peter and St Paul, Hambledon, Hampshire, this

The Prince of Wales was represented by Admiral Sir John Brigstocke.

KENSINGTON PALACE September 26: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon this afternoon opened Tim Jones House, the new Headquarters of Youth Clubs Sussex Limited, Rochester Gardens, Hove, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of East Sussex (Admiral Sir Lindsay Bryson. KENSINGTON PALACE September 26: The Duchess of Gloucester, Patron, Parkinson's Disease Society, this morning visited the Parkinson's Disease Brain Research Centre, University of London, Lundon WCI.

Royal engagements

TODAY: The Princess Royal, as President Animal Health Trust, will attend a Charity Day at Thirlestane Castle. Lauder, Berwickshire, at 10.00. Princess Margaret will attend the Festival of British Racing Day at Ascot, at 12.20, and will present The Queen's Trophy for the Queen Elizabeth II Stakes.

The Duke of Gloucester, as Trustee, the British Museum, will attend a trustees med museum at 10,00.

Luncheon

Sheriffs of the City of London After their admission to the office of Sheriffs of the City of London, Mr Alderman and Sheriff David Howard and Mr Alderman and Sheriff Michael Oliver received the guests at the Sheriffs' Breakfast held yesterday at Drapers' Hall. Vice-Admiral Sir James Weatherall. Judge Sir Lawrence Verney, Mr Alderman Clive Mar-tin and Mr Keith Knowles were the speakers. Among others

present were:
The Dowager Viscountess Leathers,
Sir Edward Howard, Sir Raiph
Perring, Commander Sir Robin
Gillett, Air Commodore the Hon Sir
Peter Vanneck, Sir Francis
McWilliams, Sir Colin Cole, Sir
Richard Evans, Sir John Tilman, Sir
Michael Craig-Cooper, the Queen's
Remembrancer, Members of the
Count of Aldermen and Court of
Common Council, Masters of Livery
Companies, former Sheriffs and
Officers of the Corporation of
London.

University news

Louden Royal Holloway

Robin McLaren, former Ambassador to China, has been appointed a member of College Council for a five year term of

Church news

Resignations and retiremen The Rev Roy Goodchild, Vicar Ticehurst and Flimwell (Chichester) retired September 1. The Rev Andrew Roff, Vicar. Gosforth St Nicholas (Newcastle) to resign October 31.

Other appointments Captain Frank Fletcher, CA. Assistant Chaplain, HMP Highpoint (St Edmundsbury & Ipswich): has been appointed Chaplain, HMP Whealston (York). Correction

The Rev Christine Mason, Assis tant Curate. Blakenhall Heath (Lichfield): to be Team Vicar. Rugeley with special responsibility for The Holy Spirit (same diocese).

Weekend birthdays

TODAY: Miss Dianc Abbott, MP, 44; Dame Lord Abinger, 83; Sir Nigel Josephine Barstow, opera singer. 57; Sir Roger Birch, former Chief ker. 68: Miss Brigitte Bardot. Constable, Sussex. 67; Baroness Blackstone, 55; the Earl of Clanactress, 63: Professor Sir Colin Berry, morbid anatomist, 60; Lady william, 78: Mr Michael Colvin. Braye, 56; the Duke of Buccleuch, KT, 74; Sir Robin Buchanan, former chairman, NHS Supplies MP, 65; Miss Barbara Dickson, singer, 49; Mr Ronald Fox, senior partner, Fox Williams, 51; Vice-Authority, Wessex Regional Admiral I.D.G. Garnett, 53; Mr Health Authority. 67: Lord J.K. Gill, former president, Saatchi and Saatchi, 77: Str Alexander Graham, former Lord Mayor of London, 59; Mr Nicholas Haslam, Cockfield, 81; Mr Peter Egan, actor, 51; Dame Phyllis Friend, former chief nursing officer, interior designer, 58; Sir Peter Holmes, former chairman, Shell Fransport and Trading Company. 65: Mr Gordon Honeycombe, broadcaster and author, ol: Mr Michael Houlihan, director. Horniman Museum and Gardens, 49; Mr Denis Lawson, actor, 50; Mr Donald Lindsay, former Head-master. Malvern College, 87: Professor G.H. Martin, former

DHSS, 75; Lieutenant-General Mr Mika Hakkinen, racing driver, 29; Sir David Hannay, diplomat, 62: Mr Lyndon Harrison, MEP, 50: Dr R.B. Heywood, former director. British Antarctic Survey, 60; Sir Trevor Hughes, water engineer, 72: Sir Jeremy Isaacs, former general director, Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, 65; Mrs Alice Mahon, MP. 60; Miss Ellen Malcolm, painter, 74; Sir Peter Miller, former chairman, Lloyd's of London, 67: Miss Mary Moon, former Headmistress, Manchester High School for Girls, 65: Major E.S. Orr Ewing, Lord-Lieutenant of Wigtown, 66; Mr Ion Snow, tele-vision journalist, 50.

Anniversaries

TODAY BIRTHS: Samuel Adams, American independence leader, Boston, 1722: George Cruikshank, cari-caturist. London, 1792: Louis Botha, 1st Prime Minister of South Africa 1910-19. Greytown, South Africa. 1862: Bernard Miles, actor, founder of the Mermaid Theatre, London, 1907.

Keeper of Public Records, 69; the

Rev Professor D.E. Nineham, theologian, 76; Mr D.A.E.R.

Peake, former chairman, Klein-wort Benson Group, 63: Dr Mar-

worr Berison Croup, 65: Dr Mar-garet Rule, consultant to the Mary Rise Trust, 69: Lord Shepherd, 79: Sir Gerald Warner, former deputy secretary, Cabinet Office, 66.

DEATHS: William of Wykeham. chancellor, Bishop of Winchester, Bishop's Waltham, Hants, 1404; Edgar Degas, painter, Paris, 1917: Adelina Pani, Baroness Ceder-strom, soprano, Craig-y-Nos Cas-tle, near Swansea, Glamorgan, 1919; Engelbert Humperdinck, composer, Neustrelitz, Germany. 1921; Aristide Maillol, painter and sculptor. Banuuls-sur-Mer, 1944; Clara Bow, the "It" girl film star. Los Angeles, 1965; Dame Gracie Fields, singer, Capri, 1979. The Society of Jesus was founded,

The Stockton-Darlington railway opened. 1825. Europe's first "moving pavement",

the travelator, opened at Bank Underground station, 1960. The musical Hair opened in London, just one day after theatre censorship ended in Britain, 1968. TOMORROW:

BIRTHS: Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio, painter, Caravaggio, Italy, 1573: Henry Fox, 1st Baron Holland, statesman, Chiswick, 1705: Prosper Merimee, writer, Paris, 1803: Francis Turner Palgrave, compiler of the Golden

Treasury of Lyrical Poetry, Great Yarmouth, 1824: Georges Clemenceau, Premier of France 1917-30. Mauilleron-en-Pareds, 1841: Sir John Denton French, 1st Earl of Ypres, C-in-C of the British Expeditionary Force in France 1914-15, Ripple, Kent, 1852; Pietro Badoglio, Marshal of Italy and Prime Minister 1943-44. Grazzano Piedmont, 1871; Sir Charles Petrie, historian. Liverpool, 1895; Peter Finch, actor, London, 1916.

DEATHS: Wenceslas, patron saint Czechoslovakia, martyred Starn Boleslav, 929; Thomas Day, author, killed by a fall from a horse at Wargrave, Berkshire. 1789; Her-man Melville, novelist and poet. New York, 1891; Louis Pasteur, bacteriologist, St Cloud, France, 1895; Edwin Hubble, astronomer, San Marino, California, 1953; Gerard Holfnung, artist, humorist and musician, 1959; Arthur (Harpo) Marx, comedian, Hollywood, 1964; André Breton, Surrealist poet, Paris, 1966; Garnal Nasser. President of Egypt 1956-70, Cairo, 1970; Sir Robert Helpmann, dancer and choreographer, Sydney, 1986; Miles Davis, jazz trumpeter, Santa Monica, California, 1991.

The Greeks defeated the Persians at Marathon, 490 BC. Polish immigrant Simon Marks and Yorkshireman Tom Spencer opened their Penny Bazzar, Manchester, 1894. The Radio Times was first pub-



Gavin Townsend and Rachel Green, of Leadgate, near Consett, Co Durham, who have recently announced their engagement

Latest wills

Sir Tom Normanton, Conservative MP for Cheadle 1970-87, of Lymington, Hampshire, left estate valued at £146,517 net.

Dame Monica Golding, Matron in Chief and Director of Army Nursing Services 1956-60, of Holdenhurst, Bournemouth, Dorurst, Bournemouth, Dorset, left estate valued at £182,296

tiel.

She left £1,000 each to the Soldlers and Armen's Scripture Readers Association. Officers' Christian Union. the London City Mission. Retired Nurses National Home Fund, Tear Fund, and the RSPCA; £500 to the QARANC Benevolent Fund and to the Bible Society. George Jack Hartridge Horne, of

George Jack Hartridge Horne, of Worthing, West Susser, left estate valued at £2,722,000 net. He left shares in his estate to the Seripture Gift Mission, the Overseas Missionary Fellowship, the RNLI, the NSFCC, the National Deal Children's Society, RAF Benevolent Fund. Spurgeon's Child Care, the Winged Fellowship, the Chest Heart and Stroke Association, YMCA, Welfare of Women and Girls, the Baptist Missionary Tear Fund, the Ferring

Maud Ethel Barlow, of Billings-

hurst, West Sussex, left estate valued at £1,080,107 net. variety at E1,000, for fict.
She left is,000 each to the Royal Star
and Garrer Home. The Spastics
Society, the Royal Hospital and
Home for Incurables, the NSPCC, the
Mouth and Foot Painting Artists,
and St Catherines Hospice.

Norman Joyston Bloch, of London NOT AN ANY STATE OF THE STATE O

Daphne Goff Caine, of London SW3, left of EL033,941 net. left estate valued at Cicely Chichester, of Heavitree, Exeter, Devon, left estate valued at £1,128,468 net. She left £2,000 to the Cars Protection

League: £1,000 each to Exeter Cathedral, St Peter's Church. Brampford Speke, near Exeter and St Peter's Church, Shirwell, Devon. Richard Arthur Harrison, o Wern, Shropshire, left estate val-ued at £1,427,381 net. Michael William Ford. Holmwood, Dorking, Surrey, left estate valued at £956,604 net.

Harry Munro Archibald, of Sutfl. 158,436 net.
He left E1.000 to the Caledonian Club: E2.000 to Trinity United Reform (Methodist) Church, of Sutton, and £10.000 to the University of Glasgow Trust.

Leslie George Wilgoss. of Kingston upon Thames, Surrey, left estate valued at £1.170.231 net.
He left £375.000 equally to the
following: the Certified Accountants
Benevolent Association, the Cancer
Research Campaign, the Royal Star
and Garter Home and Kingston
Hospital NHS Trust. Andrew Agnew, of Crowborough, Vest Sussex, left estate valued at **Forthcoming** marriages

Mr C. Bawden and Miss M. Andrews
The marriage will take place today between Mr Clive Bawden, of Exeter, Devon, and Miss Marie Andrews, of Royal Learnington Spa, Warwickshire. Mr E.A. Dean

and Miss L.N. Gothrie The engagement is announced between Edward, younger son of and Lynn, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Guthrie, of Hyde Heath. Buckinghamshire.

Mr J.R.A. Fell and Miss N.M. Biggs The engagement is announced between John, elder son of Mr Alexander Fell, of The Coldoch, Stirling and Mrs Robin Nichol son, of Claymoddie, Wigtown shire, and Nicola, daughter of Mr and Mrs Bernard Biggs, of Woodseaves, Staffordshire.

Commander F. Gevers and Miss M.D.S. McClure The engagement is announced between Francis Gevers, of Brussels, Belgium, and Great Hamp-den, Buckinghamshire, and Deirdre McClure, of Edinburgh, formerly of Londonderry. Mr G.F.G. Hudson and Miss B.M. Lee

The engagement is announced between Grahame, eldest son of Professor and Mrs Christopher Hudson, of Thornwood Common. Essex, and Bernadette, youngest daughter of the late Mr Gerard Lee and of Mrs Maureen Lee, of Church Stretton, Shropshire. Mr D.H. Johnson

and Miss S.C. Kramer The engagement is announced between David, only son of Mr and Mrs M.H. Johnson, of Little Kingshill, Buckinghamshire, and Shirley, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs V.E. Kramer, of Cape Town, South Africa Mr A.J. Ross

and Miss R.E. Fell The engagement is announced between Andrew, elder son of Mr and Mrs Walter Ross, of Chislehurst. Kent, and Rachel, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs John Fell. of Northwood, Middlesex.

Licutenant Colonel A.W. Scott

and Miss F.G. Fuller-Shapcont The engagement is announced between Alastair Scott Elliot, of Kippen, Stirlingshire, and Gail Fuller-Shapcott, of Stoke Gabriel. Devon. The marriage will take place quietly in Scotland.

Mr M.S. Williams and Miss E.J. du Preez The engagement is announced between Shaun, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Robert A. Williams, of. Johannesburg and London, and Eugenie (Gigi), younger daughter of Mr H. Michael du Preez, FRCS. and Mrs du Preez, of Cape Town and Oxford.

Marriages

Mr M.H.R. Bashford and Miss H. Welch The marriage took place on Sat-urday, September 20, 1997, at St Helen's Church, Wheathamp-stead, Hertfordshire, of Mr Mark Bashford, elder son of Mr and Mrs Robert Bashford, of Harpenden, Hertfordshire, to Miss Helen Welch, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Welch, of St Albans, officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Miss R. Scales, Mrs T. Wiltshire and Miss Z. Billingham. Mr Richard Crisp was best man. A reception was held at The Luron Hoo and the honeymoon is being spent abroad.

Mr G. Ybazeta and Miss M.M.R. Best The marriage took place on Friday, August 15, 1997, at Bond Chapel, University of Chicago, USA, of Gustavo Ybazeta Aguilar, son of Rebeca Aguilar Torres vda de Ybazeta and the late Oscar Ybazeta, of Campodonico, Lima, Peru, to Mairi Mahon Ramsay Best, daughter of Janna Ramsay Best and Henry B.M. Best, of Sudbury, Ontario, Canada, and

Dinner

English-Speaking Union

Mr Tim Pigott-Smith was the guest of honour and speaker at the opening dinner of the annual English-Speaking Union con-ference held last night at the Stratford Victoria Hotel, Stratford-

upon-Avon. Baroness Brigstocke, Chairman Baroness Brigstocke, Chairman of the English-Speaking Union of the Commonwealth, presided and Mr Charles Barwell, ESU governor, also spoke.

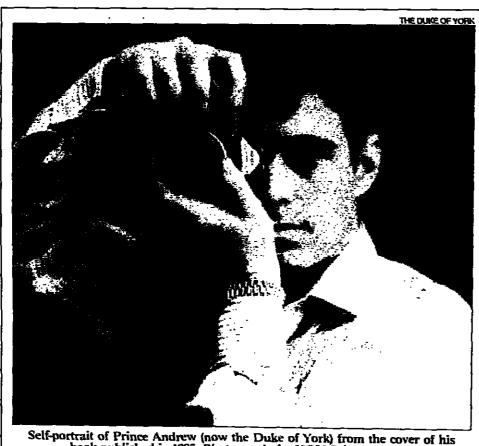
Lady Brigstocke, Mr Peter Sparling, Chairman of the ESU National Council for England and Wales, Mrs Valerie Mitchell, ESU

director-general, and Councillor Peter Hollingworth, Chairman of the ESU Birmingham branch. received the guests.

Service dinner

Islay, Scotland.

XX The Lancashire Fusiliers XX The Lancashire Fusiliers held their Minden Club dinner last night at the Army and Navy Club. Colonel I.R. Cartwright presided. Lieutenant-Colonel A.J. Whistler, Deputy Colonel, Lancashire, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, was the guest of honour.



book published in 1985: Photographs by HRH Prince Andrew

PICTURES BY ROYAL APPOINTMENT

PRINCE ANDREW issued a breezy command: "Just sit there and look natural. I'm going to get a shot of your photographer taking a shot of me

taking a picture of you."

I sat as commanded on the wall of the white mmer-house in the Buckingham Palace rose garden, and did nothing in particular while the Queen's second son examined me through the screen of a Hasselblad carnera presented to his mother on a state visit to Sweden, and bearing the royal cypher beside its film winder.

Prince Andrew ascribes his now passional interest in the photographic art to three things: the Falklands War, watching a press cameraman shoot a feature on HMS Invincible, and Koo Stark.

"When I was in the Falklands for the first time there were excellent opportunities to take photographs, and to record from my point of view what went on and how I saw it. But I didn't have a camera with me ... A photographer came out to do a sequence on us. I had the job of flying him around, and I got interested. So when I came back, I bought a And Koo? She had been asked to contribute

to an exhibition of pictures by people who were not themselves photographers, but who were always being photographed. Miss Stark per-suaded the Prince to enter some of his work. Back at the summer-house, the Prince was snapping away with great enthusiasm, obvious enjoyment, and much joking, particularly at

The Times photographer's struggle with a piece of faulty equipment. "Don't you want me to do anything?" I ventured, still maintaining my Rodin-like pose. No. I don't usually direct. I much prefer to

ON THIS DAY

September 27, 1985



The Duke of York, well used to being photographed by the press, took his revenge when he turned the tables on Alan Hamilton of The Times

sit back and let people get on with it, because you get a much more spontaneous photo-graph. "Well, sometimes; but at least two of the pictures in his new hook employ considerable artifice and trickery. One, seemingly the Lady of the Lake waiting to catch Excalibur, is in fact Miss Kate Rabett up to her neck in a pond at Frogmore on a cold February day with the sword hung from a fishing-line, while the other, mysteriously titled 'The Ninth Wife', is a ghostly double exposure of Miss Finola Hughes in a cellar beneath the Curiew Tower of Windsor Castle.

The great pleasure in taking photographs is that of giving pleasure to other people by being able to give them the photograph you have taken, and showing how good they can look. But I also like to take common sights from a different viewpoint, or with something funny Did not his position make it difficult for him

to pursue his interest in peace?
That's why the first part of my book is called

Windows, Roofs and Gardens. They were all taken here (Buckingham Palace) or at Windsor. There is a certain amount of time and privacy

here at weekends ..." But his big problem is time. "The Falklands is a marvellous place to be but to get the right photograph you have to have the right equipment, and a lot of it. You've got to be in the right place at the right time, and difficult. I haven't got photographs of the Falklands: I've only got snaps, but I would love to go back and do it properly."

Suddenly at the summer-house there was A

Direction. "Go and look at me through the window in the back with your photographer. Oh, marvellous, you look like a Punch and Judy show." Was there, one wondered silently, a slightly gleeful getting-of-one's-own-back at the Newshounds? We inspected the royal dark-room, converted

from an old bathroum in the private quarters of the palace. Its owner admitted he had been down on hands and knees cleaning it out that very morning. Would he ever take up photography in a more serious, professional way? "I don't know; we shall see. If somebody asked me in do something, and the time and the place were right. I would consider it, but my present job makes it difficult."

He plunged into a cupboard and from a filing cabinet withdrew a sheet of colour slides taken from his helicopter over the towering white mountains of South Georgia. We could not quite see the detail, so we went to one of the windows that overlook The Mall and the daily crowd around the railings, and drew aside the net curtain to hold them up to the light.

"The trouble with this," said Prince Andrew.
"is that if they see us, they if all start waving." I felt an overwhelming desire to break all protocol, draw the veil fully aside, and encourage the crowd to do just that; what a splendid picture it would have made. Rather better, I suspect, than his portrait of

CHILDREN ON DIALYSIS

need holidays, so do their families. Before

planning your own holidays this year, please

spare more than a thought for those children who

without your help will never get away at all.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

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For Jesus's sake we are all our ilfe being handed over to death, so that the life of jesus may be revealed in this mortal body of ours. 2 Corinthians 4: 11 BIRTHS

ADAMOPOULOS - On September 21st at The Portland Hospital, to Lolly and Pamos, a daughter, Paula Lee. Born at 19-22 hrs. ADAMOPOULOS

LDASBAGH - On September 22nd at The Portland Hospital, to Hanan Enany and Amr Aldabbagh, a BEAZLEY - On 25th September, to Sarah (née Flory) and Nicholas, a son, Hugo Tetley, a brother for Harriet, Camilla and Edward.

Connes on September 23rd, to Sury (noe Terner) and Alex, a wonderful son, Augustus Barnaby Luke, baby brother for Emplia and Frederick. COMBEAR - On 22nd September, to Plona and Tony, a daughter, Joanna Isla, a sister for Elspeth and

GLAYSHER - On September 24th at The Royal Surrey County Hospital, to Stuart and Sindy, a benutiful daughter, Hethany Rose. KRYGHER - On September 19th at The Portland Hospital, to Maple and Markus - 3 MACARTHUR - Max and Depute and very proud to enighted and very proud to announce the birth of Glivia Alica on the 13th (bucky for us) of September P.O. Box 2333 Reading RG4 7FB.

PITMAN - On 17th September, to Aimée (née Hampson) and David, a daughter, Estherine

IALMON - On September 23rd 1997, to Annette (née Mats) and Tom, a daughter, Amelia Kate Isabel, a sister (or

Portland Hospital, Carolyn and Nick, daughter, Giselic Oph Lill, a sister for Arabell WESS - On September 24th at The Portland Hospital, to Mary-Ann and Jonatham, a daughter, Madeleine Phoebe, a sister for Isobel.

a sister for Isobel.
WEYHAUSEN - On 20th
September at The Purtland
Hospital, to Karen (née
Fingua) and Ernst, a son,
Ernst Gustav.
WOLMAN - On September
22nd at The Fortland
Hospital, to Astrid (née
Korf) and Richard, a son,
Maximilian Henry.
WYLE - On September 23nd, to
Seamns and Camilla, a
daughter, Matilda Kate, a
sister for Alice and Isabella.

MARRIAGES

IAMADÉ:ANDERSON - AC Raven's Alt, London, on September 21st 1997, between Mr Rames Hamadé, son of Dr. Prue Hamadé and the late Mr Adib Hamadé and Miss Patricio Jane Anderson, daughter of Mr and Mrs Richard Anderson **GOLDEN**

ANNIVERSARIES

KEER-TROUP - Martin and Lee of Blockley, Glos. 27th September 1947.

GOLDEN **ANNIVERSARIES**

SARTON - Marjarie, (nee Lamden). 25th September 1997 peacefully at home. Deatly loved wire of Harry and dearly loved mother of Anthony and Charles, whose families share their deep gricf, as do her sistery-in-law, Diama and Barbara, and their families. Funeral private. No flowers by request. Donations to UNICEF clo W.I. O'Reien 2 Son, 5 Station Road, Eglinton, Co. Derry.

BOVD - Helen Margaret died peacefully after a short but unexpected illness on Sararday 13th September. Dear wife of the late Dr. Joseph Lister and much loved mother of Duncan. Memorial Service on Friday 14th November at 2 pm at All Souls Church, Longham Place, London WI. Dunations to Comine Defence League 1/o J.H. Kenyon Ltd., 83 Westbourne Cover, London WI. 10th (20171) 229 2890.

DEATHS

CHOCKES - Douglas, It. Col. retired Royal Signals. Peacefully on 23rd September 1997. Will be safty missed by his loving wife Mangueria and family. Service to take place at Aldershot Camandrum on Aldershot Crematorium on Friday 3rd October 1230pm. Family flowers only. Denations if desired to Tables Ward Trest Fond, Farnham Hospital clo E. Fisch & Sons, 123 High Short, Aldembot GUI1 1TT, (01252) 22281.

crostnevants-vounce - III.

aged 69 on September 25th
1997 peacefully in hospital
after a second stroke.

Dearest wife of Ken, beloved
mother of Mark and Sanah
and much loved gran of
james and Earriet Funeral
Thursday 2nd October at
2.45 pm Futney Vale
Crematorium. Family
flowers only, no letters
please Donations if deared please. Donations II desired to RALB. c/o Co-operative Funeral Services, 68 Parsons Green Lane, Fulham SW6 4HU, tel: (0171) 736-2939,

DAWSON - On 25th September in the Horton General Hospital, Banbury, Anthony M. Dawson K.C.V.O. M.D. FR.C.P. aged 69 years, Private cremation service. No flowers, plants, her flowers please, but donations if desired for the Royal Medical Benevolent donations if desired for the Royal Medical Benevolent Fund c/o fam Humphris, 32 Albert Street, Embury OX16 8DG.

DICKEON - On September 24th peacefully at Linford Park, joyce Mary Dickson MRE. note Committee and Campa Bowle, aged 91. Wile of the late Lt. Col. Tr. Hussey and the late Rear Admiral EX. Dickson CB., D.S.O. Stepmother of Birlabeth Dickson and Annet of Sally Deagerfield. Funeral Service at Ringwood Parish Church on Monday October 6th at 1.15 pm followed by private cramation. Family flowers only, donations if desired to the Ruiteh Red Cross Society, Ringwood Branch may be seat to Barrow Brus., Funeral Directors, 2 Nursery Road. Singwood, Hants BE24 1NG.

Pithan - Elizabeth Cattanac died pencefully at home : Fozley Green, nes Malmesbury, Wiltshire, o Monday 22nd Septembe 1997 aged 88. Widow o Captain Jack Pitman wh was killed on active servin 1943 and devoted an much lead mode per died.

much leved mother of Hugh Giles and Levinia. A Service of Thanksgiving will be beld at Sherston Church at 3.30pm on Saturday 11th October, No Howers please.

ROLLO - Eric John Stapylton 13th Lord Epilo and Baron Dunning, dearly loved husband, father and grandiather, neacefully on

grandfather, 25th Septem

suddenly in New York on September Zird, Mach loved husband of Pain. Thanksgiving Service at St Peter's Church, Baytham, Suffolk on Thurnday 2nd October at 3 pm. No Chiwes please. Dessations if wished to St Peter's Church, Co The Banthew Geant Blakspham. Rectory, Great Bla Suffalk IPS OLS. IN MEMORIAM --

PRIVATE KENNEDY - Grace. 28th September 1994. Beloved mother and best friend. Tour loving presence so much missed. Carol. SCADENG - Douglas Deffee, 22/5/24 - 27/9/47. Fondly remembered by his sisters. BIRTHDAYS

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TOM GREEVES



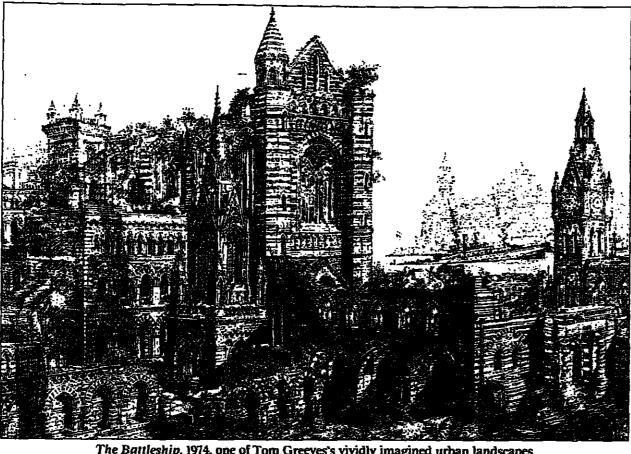
Tom Greeves architectural conservationist and draughtsman, died on August 31 aged 80. He was born on June 4, 1917.

s well as being a pen-and-ink draughtsman of remarkable sensitivity and imagination. Tom Greeves made an important contribution to the protection of Victorian London. As a founder member of the Victorian Society in 1957 he was active in limiting the postwar demolitions, and he was later instrumental in saving from redevelopment the delightful 19th-century artists' and aesthetes' community of Bedford Park, Chiswick, where he lived.

Thomas Affleck Greeves first showed his unusual artistic gifts as a schoolboy at Radley, and it was recommended that he go to the Slade. But the diet of figuredrawing he found there could not diminish a childhood interest in architecture and machines. The sight of the huge airship RIOI floating gracefully over his prep school playing fields in Elstree, and his discovery of books about ancient and Victorian architecture in the library at Radley. had already begun to form a gently subversive sensibility. A sudden revelation of the towers and spires of St Pancras Station on one morning of misty sunlight was also a

formative experience. He recognised the deeply romantic potential of 19thcentury townscapes at a time when the great and the good eagerly anticipated wide demolition. He could never have expressed such feelings fully through his intended career in architectural practice, and the

THE WHILE IN A REAL



The Battleship, 1974, one of Tom Greeves's vividly imagined urban landscapes

interruption of his training at Cambridge by the outbreak of war led to an experience which further shaped and directed his creative imagination. In 1942 a three-year attachment to the Indian Army took him to the North-West Frontier Province and a world of mosques, palaces, rock-cut temples The gradually decaying Victorian Gothic buildings of the British Rai were no less strik-

and overgrown ruined cities. ing, and their curious juxtaposition with tropical vegetation added an exotic element to Greeves's imaginative landscape, which was already emerging in delicately executed ink drawings of drama and Greeves had discovered Piranesi as a schoolboy, and

was to be much influenced by the etchings of Charles Meryon, and F. L. Griggs, in whose imaginary medieval townscapes he recognised the work of a kindred spirit. After the war his training was completed at the Architectural Association, but he eventually ahandoned professional practice to pursue his own vision through drawing.

He came to public notice in 1951 as the winner of the Architects' Benevolent Society competition to design a monument to the Good Old Days of Architecture. Greeves's winning drawing displayed the humour that was an essential ingredient of all he did. This was even more pro-

nounced in the strange flying machines which appeared in The Saturday Book in 1966 and 1967. The Assisted Takeoff shows a steam-nowered airliner of wood and canvas, belching coal smoke as it struggles into the air from a massive Italianate brick and stucco ramp. In another illustration, a spreading steam palace ascends slowly but violently in clouds of vapour and dust, scattering onlookers to right and left.

Few contemporaries could match Greeves's understanding of light and atmosphere, and although it is tempting to compare it to the theatrical

chiaroscuro of Piper and other Neo-Romantic artists, a drawing such as The Country House, with the delicate melancholy of its late winter afternoon sunlight, is unmistakably Greeves's.

Watching London's skyline of spires and domes being gradually diminished by corporate leviathans caused Greeves real anguish, and he was one of the distinguished group (including Nikolaus Pevsner, John Betjeman, J. M. Richards, Hugh Casson and Osbert Lancaster) that met at 18 Stafford Terrace in November 1957 to found the Victorian Society.

His greatest personal achi-evement in building conservation was the saving of Bedford Park, the early garden suburb of Chiswick where charming tile-hung, red-brick "Queen Anne" houses had been built by Godwin, Norman Shaw and E. J. May to house a community of artists, writers and aesthetes.

Greeves moved there with his wife, Eleanor, in 1951. Here

they lived in the spirit of the place, as true "Bedford Parkers", with Tom drawing and playing Bach and Scarlatti on the fortepiano, and Eleanor designing and print-ing decorative wall tiles. But at

that time the whole area was under threat from private developers and council building projects. Thanks to his determination and persistence, Greeves won recogni-tion and then, in 1967. statutory listing for these delightful buildings. Before his illness he was a

familiar figure around Bedford Park, conducting guided walks which very often ended in the snug of the Tabard Inn. Here, among the De Morgan tiles and painted woodwork of Norman Shaw's interior, students of architecture and urban design could share the insights and vivid memories of this genial, culti-vated and gifted guardian of historic townscapes real and imaginary.

He is survived by his wife, Eleanor.

JIMMY WITHERSPOON

Jimmy Witherspoon blues singer, died on September 18 in Los Angeles aged 74. He was born on August 8, 1923.

JIMMY WITHERSPOON was one of the last great blues shouters, a muscular breed of black American vocalists (including Joe Turner, Wynonie Harris and Eddie Vinson) who had to shout to be heard above the blaring brass sec-tions and electrified rhythms of the jump bands that backed them.

In the bars and clubs of the big cities in the immediate postwar years, the bands that had evolved out of the larger territory bands of the 1920s and 1930s would create a new form of black music called rhythm and blues, and so turn Witherspoon into a jukebox favourite. But when fashions changed in the late 1950s, he was able to find equal success in the jazz field, before the blues world reclaimed him during the blues boom of the late 1960s. His recording career spanned 50 years, and he was as much at home with the jazz giant Ben Webster as he was, in later decades, with the white blues guitarist Robben Ford.
Jimmy Witherspoon was born in Gurdon, Arkansas.

and sang as a child at the local baptist church where his mother played piano. He moved to California during his teens and ended up washing dishes before joining the Merchant Marine during the Second World War. It was while stationed in Calcutta that he was invited to sing with the American bandleader and pianist Teddy Weatherford, who had a residency at the city's Grand Hote

After his discharge in 1944 he auditioned for the bandleader Jay McShann, who had just lost his star vocalist Walter Brown. Recalling the audition, Witherspoon told the rock historian Arnold Shaw: I was wearing a lieutenant junior grade uniform, I was chief cook and steward in the Merchant Marine, but I looked like a Japanese admiral with my braids and all." He got the job and made his first records with the band in

Los Angeles in 1945. He built up a solid reputation with his warm, rich and exuberant vocals and was soon cutting



records under his own name. including the two-part Ain't in 1977. Later came flirtations with Nobody's Business, which stayed on the Billboard rhythm amd blues chart for

weeks in 1949, He went to record for the Los Angeles-based Modern label, where he enjoyed a double-sided hit with No Rollin' Blues and Big Fine Blues and also recorded Real Ugly Woman, one of the first songs by a pair of music-mad high school pupils called Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller.

But as rhythm and blues developed into rock n'roll, Witherspoon found himself sidelined, until a surprise appearance at the 1959 Monterev Jazz Festival relaunched his career. He revelled in the company of such stars as Ben Webster, Gerry Mulligan and Jack McDuff, and found a whole new legion of fans. He became a frequent visitor to Europe but refused to be categorised as a jazz singer. That's a dirty word, I'm a singer and I'm a blues singer and I'm an American singer,"

he told Living Blues magazine

rock and a partnership with the former Animals singer Eric Burdon, as well as a fruitful relationship with the guitarist Robben Ford. In between tours he also became disc jockey on American radio.

It was while touring Britain in 1984 that he was diagnosed with throat cancer and taken to hospital in Manchester for emergency treatment. After a long period of recuperation he returned to performing, with a voice that was deeper but far less powerful than before. "I had radiation on my throat and turned an octave deeper. he told the audience when he appeared at London's Jazz Café for a short set last year. On that occasion he looked jaunty enough in a pinstripe suit, but the magnificent voice was gone. The timing and the phrasing, however, showed him still a master of his craft. He is survived by his wife, Diana, and three children.

BILL HUNTER CHRISTIE



Bill Hunter Christie. barrister and campaigner for the Falkland islanders, died on September 22 aged 75. He was born on August 18, 1922.

BILL HUNTER CHRISTIE belonged to that great English tradition of independently minded individuals with nonconformist, outsiders' temperaments, who espouse and champion causes without regard to authority, popularity or self-interest. Over the centuries such people have brought honour and probity to public life and have sometimes, by sheer persistence, managed to change orthodox opinion and occasionally to move government policy. Eric William Hunter Chris-

tie was such a figure. The son of a Queen's Counsel, and the grandson of an Astronomer Royal, he was educated at Marlborough and, after going straight into the Coldstream Guards at the age of 18, eventually read for the Bar himself, being called by Lincoln's Inn (of which his father had served as Treasurer) in 1952. A highly able man with a

lucid mind, he sacrificed the chance of a conventionally successful career at the Bar in order to devote his legal talents to deserving causes that interested him. One example was the Inland Waterways Association and its fight to keep the network intact. However, he will principal-

ly be remembered as the person who kept the Falkland Islands British at a time when successive governments were tempted to regard them as an awkward inheritance from Empire that threatened to complicate Britain's relationship with Argentina.

If the attempted negotiating visits paid to the Falklands first by a Labour and then by a Tory junior minister at the Foreign Office - Ted Rowlands in 1977 and Nicholas Ridley in 1980 - both came to nothing, it was largely because each ran into the roadblock of a parliamentary veto effectively erected by the lob-bying efforts of Hunter

He certainly had the background for such a task. Havng been badly wounded in 1943, he was invalided out of the Army and the following year joined the South American department of the Foreign Office.

Between 1946 and 1948 he served as Third Secretary at the British Embassy in Buenos Aires, where he met President Perón. Indiscreetly, Peron told him that in order to deflect political unrest from his Government he proposed to reassert Argentina's dor-mant claim to the Falkland Islands. Hunter Christie's curiosity

was immediately aroused, and

his interest in South Atlantic issues was sealed by his spending the following two years, 1948-50, at the Scott Polar Research Institute in Cambridge. He published the results of his work there in The Antarctic Problem (1951). As early as 1968, Falkland island councillors suspected that Harold Wilson's Labour Government was secretly negotiating sovereignty with Argentina, and appealed for help. The United Kingdom Falkland Islands Committee was formed in response to this appeal, with the aim of obtaining official recognition of the right of the islanders — who numbered sewer than 2,000 to determine their own destiny. Hunter Christie was a founder member of this com-mittee, served as its honorary secretary (1968-78) and throughout played a leading

role in its work. For 25 years he was "Mr Falklands", consulted and respected by politicians, diplo-mats and writers, many of whom rejected his opinions but found that they could not ignore them. His views were stubbornly and uncompro-misingly held — like those of the islanders themselves but he saw further and more clearly than most.

It is certainly the case that if the British Government had listened to the advice of the Falklands Islands Committee there would have been no Argentine invasion in 1982, and no need to dispatch the task force. A series of discussion papers on military and economic matters was produced by the committee, and many of the ideas advanced were later developed in the Shackleton reports, one before the invasion and the other afterwards.

A great deal of the early work designed to establish a fisheries regime off the Falklands - with an unusually wide fishing limit — was done by Hunter Christie and the South Atlantic Fisheries Committee. The present prosperity of the islands is a direct consequence of their initiative. To the end of his life nothing

story of a visit he once paid with a deputation to a Foreign Office minister, in whose room a senior civil servant solemnly assured the assembled gathering that "there are no fish in the South Atlantic". Hunter Christie was a re-

delighted Hunter Christie

more than to rehearse the

markable man, with the ability to inspire people, particularly the young, to support the causes he championed. He possessed an exciting and original mind, great energy and courage. He committed everything to the campaigns in which he believed. In 1993 the Falkland islanders recognised his work for

them by awarding him the Freedom of Port Stanley. He valued this more than any more conventional honour he might otherwise have received by following a more orthodox career path. He is survived by his wife,

Merle, from whom he was separated, two sons, two daughters, and his companion, Lynn, with whom he shared the last years of his life.

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MILESTONES

Viscount Tonypandy, Speaker of the House of Commons, 1976-83, died on September 22 aged 88. January 29, 1909.

George Thomas, the son of a Rhondda miner, was born in



at Tonypandy Secondary School and University Coll-Southampton. He ioined the Labour Party in 1925, and delivered his first political speech when only 18. In 1936 he led a hunger march from Tonypandy to Cardiff. A committed leftwinger, he won the Cardiff Central seat in 1945. He became Secretary of State for Wales in 1968 for two years, but he was not in the Government formed by Harold Wilson in March 1974. He was the first Speaker in the age of broadcasting from the Commons, and became famous as a result. During this year's general election, he gave his support to the Referendum Party.

Obituary published on

September 23.

died on September 19 aged 77. She was born on June 2, 1920. Diana Montague-Stuart-Wortly-Mackenzie, the second daughter of Viscount

Diana Duchess of

Newcastle, jockey and

master of foxhounds

Carlton, was born into a family with a long tradition of hunting and racing. Their house party for the Doncaster races was, until the Second World War, the big-gest in the country. In 1946 she married the 9th Duke of Newcastle, whose sporting interests were sadly different. After 1950 they lived apart, and they were di-vorced in 1959. The Duchess then became very active in the point-to-point and racing worlds, and also entered the Monte Carlo Rally. She campaigned for women to be allowed to race on the flat in



mainland Britain, and while waiting for the Jockey Club to change its rules rode races at many of Europe's most famous courses. After 1972. when she was 52, she managed to race at Doncaster, Salisbury and Folkestone. Obituary published on od).
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Admiral Sir Derek Empson, GBE, KCB, naval aviator and Second Sea Lord, 1971-74, died on



September 20 aged 78. He was born on October 29, 1918.

Derek Empson served the Navy for nearly four de-cades, and his experiences encompassed the whole history of Royal Navy aviation, from the ill-equipped struggles of the early war years to the postwar heyday of high-performance, jet-propelled aircraft operating from huge aircraft carriers. By the end of the 1940s he had achieved a remarkable landings without a single incident. After comme the fleet carrier Fagle, he became a full admiral in 1972, and served as Vice-Admiral of the United King-

dom, 1986-88 Obituary published on September 26.

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SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 27 1997

Shares surge to record level as sterling takes a beating

By Alasdair Murray, economics correspondent

THE stock market stormed to a record high and the pound plunged as speculation that Britain will make an early entry into a European single currency reached fever pitch

Traders seized on reports that the Government is moving towards a more pro-EMU stance as evidence that Britain could join a single currency as soon as 2000.

Although the Treasury moved swiftly to dismiss the reports as "speculation", the City was predicting that a firm announcement on the Government's plans for EMU could be made as early as next week

at the Labour conference. The FTSE 100 closed up 160.8 points at 5,226.3, the biggest one-day points gain for ten years. The rise added nearly £30 billion to the value of the index. The stock market's meteoric rise was also aided by a rise on Wall Street after a downwards revision in US second-quarter GDP figures

Gilt prices also climbed steeply with the benchmark December gilt contract leaping El916 to close at £119916, while the spread with German bunds narrowed by two basis points to 98.

While shares and bonds soared on expectations that EMU entry will mean lower interest rates, the pound went into reverse as it lost its "safe haven" status. The pound slipped to a four-month low against the German mark during trading, before settling down four pfennigs at DM2.8324. Sterling's tradeweighted index slipped 1.4 points to 99.7, while the pound lost two cents to \$1.6053.

Economists said that the pound was also suffering because the Government is likely to want to enter EMU at levels closer to DM2.50. Mich-

ael Saunders, UK economist at Salomon Brothers, added that by stirring speculation about UK entry into EMU, the Government was capping gilt yields and edging sterling lower without precipitating a currency crisis."

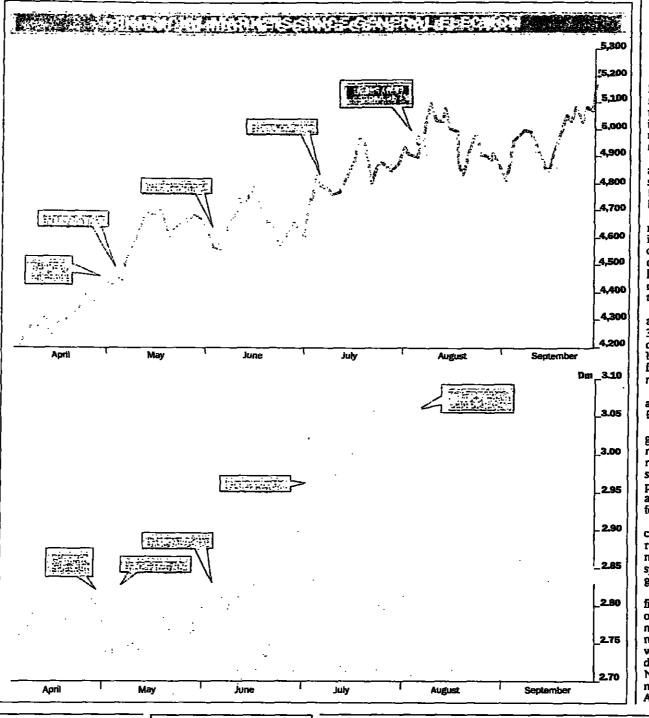
Economists also cautioned about the short-term outlook for the market, pointing to the fact that the fall in sterling made it more likely that the Bank of England will raise rates. Philip Shaw, UK economist at Investec, said; "The fall in sterling has eased the Bank's policy dilemma mak-

ing a rate rise more likely."
Financial service sector stocks led the stock market higher with analysts calculating that higher bond prices and lower interest rates will boost profits. Barclays jumped 1352p to £16.642, Nat West rose 854p to 9324p while Lloyds TSB was 45p better off at \$20 p. Industrial and manufacturing stocks also enjoyed a strong showing as the pound tumbled. GKN climbed 892p to £14.19, while TI rose 55p to

Businesses with a strong European presence gave a warm welcome to the reports. Peter Foster, finance director at Commercial Union, said: "Given the fact that we have such major operations within continental Europe, we would certainly find a lot of attractions in joining in with a common European currency."

British Steel, which has seen profits tumble over the past year due to the strength of the pound, cautioned on joining at the current high level of the pound. John Rennocks, executive of director of finance, said the company would welcome the more stable currency outlook if the UK joined EMU.

> Commentary, page 29 Stock market, page 31



Homes lending drops 11% in August

By Alasdair Murray ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

BANK mortgage lending slowed in August providing the first tentative evidence that interest rate rises are beginning to depress the housing market.

The British Bankers Association monthly lending figures showed gross lending totalled £2.77 billion in August, a fall of Il per cent from July.

The seasonally adjusted measure of net mortgage lending - which takes into account repayments of mortage debts - rose by £753 million last month against £880 million in July and well below

the recent monthly average. The number of new approvals slipped back 17 per cent to 37,381, while their total value declined 18 per cent to £2.72 billion. The BBA said these fails were well below those recorded in August last year.

But the average value of approvals rose 4 per cent to £59,300.

Tim Sweeney, BBA director-general, said: "It may be that recent increases in interest rates have started to have some effect, though a clearer picture may emerge once overall mortgage industry figures for the month are published."

Mr Sweeney said it was clear that the housing market recovery had been accompanied by "steady rather than spectacular growth in mort-

gage lending".

The BBA warned that the figures were not the final proof of a slowdown in the housing market as falls in August were not unusual and comparisions with last year had been distorted by inclusion of the National & Provincial business for the first time in last August's figures.

BUSINESS TODAY STOCK MARKET INDICES

FTSE 100 5226.3 (+160.8)
Yield 3.12%
FTSE All share 2445.86 (+66.49)
Nikkel 17994.71 (-347.25) 7908,92 (+60.91)* 943,69 (+5.78)* US RATE

LONDON MONEY. STERLING

DOLLAR

Tokyo close Yen 120.86 NORTH SEA CIL Brent 15-day (Dec) \$19.40 (\$19.15)

COLD : London close..... \$327.25 (\$327.15) * denotes midday trading price

Takeover bid lifts shares

By George Sivell

SHARES in T&N, the vehicle components group laid low by 'asbestosis claims, soared 60p to 2422p after it revealed a takeover approach from Federal Mogul, the Michigan car components group.

The approach, at 235p a share, values T&N at £1.23 billion. Analysts believe a counterbid from another American group is likely. T&N responded by saying it was evaluating the bid with N M Rothschild, its advisers. Federal Mogul has annual sales of \$2 billion (£1.25 bil-

lion) against almost £2 billion for T&N in 1996; employs 14,000 around the world and has a European headquarters in Wiesbaden, Germany. One analyst said: "It's cer-

tainly an offer that T&N shareholders will have to con-sider," adding that it remained to be seen if T&N recommended the bid. | 1875 | - 6877 | 7868 | - 7868 | - 785 | 1875 | - 1875 | 1875 | - 1875 | 1875 | - 1875 | 1875 | - 1875 | 1875 | - 1875 | 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875 | - 1875

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Another analyst said that the Federal Mogul bid undervalues T&N, which he believes is worth up to 250p a share. He said the company should stress its global market pos-ition, its engineering strengths and the fact that margins are recovering in many of its markets, and move the market's focus away from its "bad reputation" on asbestos.

Tempus, page 31

Cash is king for 43% of **Northern Rock holders**

By CAROLINE MERRELL

NEARLY half of Northern Rock customers have opted to sell their shares immediately in an auction to be held on the eve of the society's flotation next week. The society estimates about 43 per cent of its members will sell their entire holding of 500 shares through the Hoare Govett facility.

They are selling their shares, in spite of the fact that

it will cost them £10. The Alliance & Leicester, Woolwich and Halifax, all offered free share dealing facilities. Approximately a quarter of the shares in these three converted societies were sold by investors immediately. In spite of the high number of people selling out, City

Index, the financial bookmaker, forecasts that shares in the Northern Rock could reach

between 420p and 433p when the society makes its stock market debut on October 1. This would give each of Northern Rock's 900,000 members an average windfall of £2,100 - higher than nearly all the

other converting societies.
Northern Rock's membership are selling their shares even though City analysts believe that it is a good growth stock. Salomon Brothers said: "It is a cost-efficient operation which allows profitability at low margins. Northern Rock should significantly outpace the 6-7 per cent growth in the mortgage market."

Adam Applegarth, Northern Rock executive director, said: " The high number of people selling is a culmination of number of things. We have a predominantly local membership. Geordies tend to like

He pointed out that the North East and Newcastle have the lowest proportion of people who own shares. He added: "We suspect that many sellers will use some of their windfall for holiday or new household goods or just a treat in general.

☐ Peter Birch, chief executive of Abbey National, said in Hong Kong yesterday that building societies are going to find it increasingly difficult to remain mutual "because they do not have access to capital and capital eventually is king". Abbey National converted to a bank and floated on the stock market in 1989.

Tempus, page 31 Rock steady, page 64

Buffett may sell stake in Salomon

WARREN BUFFETT, the billionaire investor, could sell his 19 per cent Salomon stake after the bank's \$9 billion merger this week with Travelers Group, according to Deryck Maughan, the Salomon executive chairman

(Oliver August writes). Mr Buffett backed the merger and will hold a 4 per cent stake in the new group worth \$550 million after the proposed stock swap.

In an interview with The Times Mr Maughan said: "He has not characterised it as a long-term holding. He is positive on the deal, but whatever he does won't critically affect us"

Although he is a senior

non-executive director of Salomon, Mr Buffett will not be on the Travelers board. Fellow Traveler, page 28

Reed admits circulation figures were overstated

By Adam Jones tion figures were issued for the

REED ELSEVIER could face legal demands for compensation of at least £125 million after admitting drastic overstatement of circulation figures on some of its leading international directories.

A full investigation is under-way at its Reed Travel Group division, which publishes air-line and hotel directories and the company advises "a substantial write-down" is likely.

Shares of Reed International, the UK arm of the Anglo-Dutch group, fell 492p to 536¹2 p yesterday as investors sought to quantify the extent of the damage. The company said it would take "a number of months" before the extent of the overstatement is known. Advertisers were over charged for five years in some

cases after incorrect circula-

AWEEK IN THE CITY

airline and hotel directories. The overstatement took place between 1991 and 1995, when the directories produced total revenues of about £500 million. One industry source esti-mated the circulation over-

statement could be 15 to 20 per

cent. Advertisers include the Hyatt and Sheraton hotel groups, United Airlines and British Airways. Nigel Stapleton, Reed

Elsevier co-chairman, said it was too early to say whether the irregularities will warrant police investigation. The board also intends to

write down intangible asset values. Market speculation yesterday suggested this could be by more than £100 million. Reed said the irregularities

for £275 million in 1993. Reed confirmed yesterday that the irregularities involve OAG, although it said they date from after the purchase. The problems also involve Hotel Travel Index titles, bought from The News Corporation in 1989. Reed said there

had been discovered after new

management arrived at Reed Travel Group last August. The

publications involve Official

Airline Guides (OAG), bought

from the administrator of

Robert Maxwell's Maxwell

Communication Corporation

was no evidence of irregularities before 1991. The investigation will involve Freshfields, the UK law firm. Auditors were not confirmed last night

Commentary, page 29

Ashley issued its third profit warning in five months, turning up the heat on Ann Iverson, the group's ever-hopeful chief

NatWest Markets stuck its neck out with a prediction that the FTSE 100 would hit 7,000 by the end of 2000. By good fortune, yesterday's reaction to an EMU rumour brought that target significantly closer. One senses the hand again of Soros.

who famously made \$1 billion shorting the pound ahead of the UK's withdrawal from the ERM in 1992. Back in smokeshrouded Kuala Lumpur. Dr M can only sit and weep.

JON ASHWORTH

eorge Soros is not a man who takes kindly to criticism. Nei-ther is Dr Mahathir Mohamad, the mercurial Prime Minister of Malaysia. So delegates at the International Monetary Fund (IMF) annual conference in Hong Kong could not quite believe it when Soros dismissed the Malaysian premier as "a menace to his

country". Dr Mahathir's "crime" had been to launch an outspoken attack on "immor-al" financial speculators, blaming them for Malaysia's economic malaise. His proposed solution - a ban on currency trading - sent the ringgit to a 26-year low against the dollar, leaving the doctor literally under a pall. The smoke drifting



The fun and games at the IMF came

of Smith Barney, the US broker,

unveiled plans to swallow Salomon, the

hard-nosed Wall Street investment

The last laugh went to Warren Buffett,

across from Indonesia did little for his bank. The \$9 billion deal makes a millionaire of Peter Middleton, the motorcycling monk who tried to sort out the sandwiched neatly between two headmess at Lloyd's of London. Middleton, who has expanded comfortably into his new role, cleans up on Salomon shares. line-grabbing mergers, and a rampant display by the London stock market. No He will head the enlarged European operations of Salomon Smith Barney. sooner had Price Waterhouse announced its engagement with Coopers & Lybrand, than Travelers Group, owner leaving the task of running the worldwide firm to Deryck Maughan, the New York-based son of a Durham coalminer.

has proved well-founded over the years. Little over a week ago, the markets reacted in horror at his decision to shift \$2 billion out of equities and into bonds
— a traditional haven ahead of an impending stock market crash. A few days on, his long-held stake in Salomon stands to net him a profit of at least \$1.4 billion, leaving him more or less back where he started.

Another investment powerhouse, the

mighty Nomura found itself cast in the unlikely role of Britain's biggest landwhose reputation as a canny investor lord, when it gulped down Instrepeneur and Spring Inns for £1.2 billion. Eurotunnel edged into the black for the first time in 11 years, but there was less cheer at Sears, which announced plans to sell or close all its shoe shops, leading to up to 850 redundancies.

Carlsberg-Tetley said it was getting rid of three of its five breweries, scuppering 1,500 jobs. Poor Laura

Scottish Eastern



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Fellow Traveler popped question over dinner



THE idea for the \$9 billion takeover of Salomon by Travelers Group was hatched on the 43rd floor of the World Trade Center. Deryck Maughan, Salomon's executive chairman, can see Travelers' head office in Midtown Manhattan from his window - and by the

end of the year he will be based there. On August 14, he picked up the phone and called Sandford Weill, his opposite number at Travelers, and invited him to dinner. At the Four Seasons he asked him: "Sandy, the world is changing, what are you going to do?" Mr Weill put his aggressive acquisition machine into top gear and created America's secondlargest financial services merger in less than a month. The joint group, whose new investment banking arm is to be called Salomon Smith Barney, will be

worth \$55 billion. Few on Wall Street can believe that Oliver August finds out how a takeover

came to be on the menu for Salomon

the initiative came from Mr Maughan. After the merger announcement rumours were spreading that Mr Maughan had been bounced into the deal by Warren Buffett, the investor with a 19 per cent stake. Other bankers had apparently seen him looking gloomy in meetings with Travelers. It seems they mistook his naturally

humble nature for something else. The son of a Co Durham miner, Mr Maughan has worked for the Treasury and is excited about the prospect of making Salomon part of a global financial institution that deals in everything from insurance retail to selling government bonds. Mr Weill wants to make further overseas acquisitions, taking non-US revenues far beyond the 25 per cent of the present total, according to an animated Mr Maughan.

In his view, finance will in future be dominated by six to eight global giants. He said: "I used to think maybe ten. but that's probably too many." Other investment banks of Salomon proportions - Credit Suisse First Boston or Bear Stearns - will either have to find merger partners or perish.

Mr Maughan said: "We will be one of the global survivors. If others don't follow us, they will be forced into much

lower profitability." Some Wall Street banking analysts agree, and even talk of an eventual takeover of Goldman Sachs, a limited partnership.

But such huge deals also create problems. Mr Maughan will have to share power at Salomon Smith Daincy with his co-chief executive James Dirnon, a Weill protege. Speculation as to how long Mr Maughan will last in this position already abounds. The Wall Street Journal said: The show may have a short run." Business Week magazine headlined: "How long can these two tango?"

Mr Maughan is non-plussed even though Mr Weill has not given him any guarantees. Whatever his true feelings, he certainly can't go back. Soon his office and the whole trading floor in the World Trade Center will be sublet to another bank.

Hambros

rejects

revised

offer by

Fishers

By MARIANNE CURPHEY

NSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

HAMBROS, the troubled

merchant bank, has rejected a revised ES4 million offer by Fishers International, the loss

adjuster, for its controlling

stake in Hambros Insurance

Services, Fishers was un-

daunted, saying it would look

"elsewhere" for acquisitions.

Kevin Kenny, Fishers' chief executive, said he was disap-

pointed that Hambros had

ejected "our rational offer".

both companies are understood to be concerned that Hambros had declined to re-

start talks after Fishers' initial

approach in July. Analysts said Hambros felt it would

face more pressure to dismantle other parts of its empire

The announcement damp-

ened demand for Hambros

shares, which rose just 14p to

227p in a market where

Barclays leapt more than £1.

Fishers fell ip to 212p and HIS from III 2p to 101p.
Fishers, valued at £27 mil-

lion, was offering the mer-

chant bank Hambros, which

holds 52 per cent of HIS's equity, a total of 128.7p per

share, valuing the company at £84 million. However, Ham-

bros rejected the terms, and

Fishers announced it would

not be putting the proposal to

the board and shareholders of

Nicholas Page, HIS manag-

ing director, said: This ap-

proach was highly opportunis

tic. I am pleased this period of

uncertainty can now be brought to an end." He added

Fishers' proposals would have

had a a very serious and

substantial adverse impact on

the HIS Group businesses

and Fishers were informed of

HIS for their consideration.

had it agreed to the deal.

Institutional investors of

BUSINESS HOUNDUP

BG starts talks to sell subsidiary for £80m

A. INTELLIGENT pig is soon to be sold in a deal that could net up to £80 million for BG, half of the old British Gas, BG is in talks to sell its Pipeline Integrity International (PU) business, dubbed the intelligent pig because it is an inspection operation that involves sending a detector crawling through the pipelines. BG expects to sell the business, which has assets worth more than £40 million, to a company formed by the private equity division of Mercury Asset Management.

The move is part of a series of disposals that BG announced when it reported its half-year results earlier this month. BG has embarked on a substantial cost reduction programme, which involves hiving off non-core businesses and cutting 2,500 jobs at its Transco division, after a price curb ruling by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. BG said the sale would give PII the best opportunity to realise its potential while BG will be able to redeploy resources to its international downstream business.

Safety firm chief quits

PETER HALL resigned as chief executive of Industrial Control, the oil and chemical safety systems group, after it control, the ou and chemical safety systems group, after it announced a 2l per cent fall in full-year pre-tax profits to £4.4 million (£5.6 million) and cut its final dividend from 2.1p to 0.5p, blaming low profit margins and development costs. David Lindsay, currently finance director, will succeed him. Earnings were 6.09p a share (9.03p). Total dividend is 2p (3.6p), payable on November 2l. The shares fell 78½p to 65p.

Jourdan seeks £5m

THOMAS JOURDAN, the Corby, Northamptonshire, trouser-press company chaired by David Abell, is raising £5.07 million via a rights issue. The fund raising was announced as Jourdan disclosed a pre-tax loss of £1.2 million for the six months to June 30 after net exceptional charges of £544,000 against restructuring. Losses were 6.3p a share. There is no dividend. As a result of the restructuring and change of year-end there are no comparable figures for last year's first half.

Beckett blocks GU

MARGARET BECKETT, President of the Board of Trade, yesterday barred General Utilities, the UK arm of Generale des Eaux, the French utility, from exerting its full voting rights in Mid Kent Water. The move came after a redemption of preference shares increased its holding in Mid Kent from 19.5 per cent to 24.2 per cent. That took its influence beyond the level set by the Government in 1991 to safeguard the number of water companies under independent control.

Gieves slips into the red

GIEVES, the retail group that owns Knickerbox, reported a loss before tax of £147,000 (£278,000 profit) in the six months to July 31 on sales up from £9.6 million to £10.3 million. The half-year dividend has been cut from 0.75p to 0.40p. Gieves said: "Subject to the obvious uncertainties that surround the Christmas trading period at Gieves & Hawkes and Knickerbox the loss incurred in the first half should be eliminated." The shares fell lp to 48p.

Boeing to lift capacity

BOEING, the aircraft manufacturer, plans to more than double capacity, increasing output to 48 aircraft a month from just over 18. Phil Condit, the company's chairman, said. Earlier this month Boeing, which is the main competitor to Airbus Industrie, the European consortium, was forced to delay delivery of 12 aircraft because of parts shortages, a stretched supplier base and an influx of new employees. Yesterday Mr Condit said these problems would be overcome by April.

Electrophoretics slides

ELECTROPHORETICS, the AIM-listed medical diagnostics research company, reported a pre-tax loss of £760,883 (£676,756 loss) in the six months to June 30. The loss reflects the increased coverage of research but remains in line with budget projections. The loss per share deepened from 1.04p to 1.05p. There will be no dividend. Directors said they were confident that sub-licensing agreements to be confirmed before the end of 1997 will transform the company. The shares rose 3p to 4lp.

Officials aim to create banking super union

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

A BANKING super union representing up to 250,000 workers may be formed by the end of next year after talks between the three main finance unions.

The move comes as Bifu and UNiFI yesterday gave warning of a likely mandate next week for strike action at Barclays in a dispute over pay and conditions.

Bifu, UNIFI and the Nat-

West Staff Association said a merger to form a giant finance union, which must go through lengthy rounds of consultation, would "end decades of rivalry" and provide a unifed voice to light job insecurity

Kirk leaves Cooper

ED KIRK, the embattled chief executive of Frederick Cooper, the housewares and coatings group, has abruptly left the com-pany in the middle of his three-year contract. Mr Kirk, who was paid £200.000 a year, will receive compensation (Chris Ayres writes.)

Shares in Frederick Cooper have fallen from 43½p to 112p over 12 months. wiping about E200,000 from the value of Mr Kirk's

holding in the company. Geoff Gahan. non-executive chairman, will take control until a new chief executive is found.

of all the members of the three unions could begin next summer after final meetings of the unions. Rulebook changes and merger details will be thrashed out this winter.

In a joint statement the secretaries of the unions said: "The clear message from our members is to end divided staff representation and reclaim an agenda that is increasingly driven by management to create a genuine partnership.

The unions believe that if a super union is created it could attract finance staff from building societies and other financial areas. A spokesman for Bifu, the

biggest banking union, said that the dispute at Barclays highlighted the need for consolidated action.

UNiFI and Bifu have campaigned jointly against pay proposals, but at the last ballot Bifu endorsed full strike action while UNiFI backed industrial action short of a strike.

Yesterday Ed Sweeney, general secretary of Bifu, said he expected the latest ballot to back strike action, while Paul Snowball, general secretary of UNiFI, said his members could also vote to strike. Mr Snowball said: "Attitudes have hardened since the last ballot and it is clear that Barclays have not paid any attention to the measures we have taken."

The ballot results are due to be announced on Tuesday. If both unions vote for strike action there are likely to be a series of walk-outs lasting more than one day at branches throughout the country.



Chris Evans, left, with Noel Edmonds and Kevin Gray, chief executive, yesterday

Toad set to break even

TOAD, the car security com- acquisition of two rivals, pany which gave free shares to Noel Edmonds in return for publicity, claimed yesterday it would break even by the end of this year, despite reporting deeper pre-tax losses for the year to March 31, from £2.3 million to £5.2

The company, founded and chaired by Chris Evans, the biotechnology entrepreneur, also announced the proposed Laserline and Sigma, for a combined total of £1.6 million in cash and shares.

Toad said it was recovering well after its share price crash last year from 117 p to 27 p, with a new management team. It added that its flagship product, an anti-theft tracking device which can be hidden almost anywhere inside a car, was expected to be on saleby the end of next year.

Dr Evans said: "Trading in the current year has been very encouraging with turnover and gross margins improving significantly."

The company also reported a 60 per cent rise in turnover from £3 million to £4.8 million, with losses per share up from 16,98p to 26.31p. No dividend will be paid. The closed 2½p up at 30p.

Tempus, page 31 these concerns.

By Martin Barrow

WILLIS CORROON, the UK insurance broker, is to take an initial 30 per cent stake in one of Germany's largest brokers, it was an-nounced yesterday.

Under the terms of the agreement Willis Corroon could eventually become the controlling shareholder in Jaspers Wuppesahl Industrie Assekuranz, a newly formed broker that has emerged from the rapid consolidation of the sector in

Germany. The German broker is the result of the merger of Jaspers Industrie Assekuranz (JIA), of Frankfurt, the country's fourth largest, and Wuppesahl

Assekuranzmakler, of Bremen, the number six in the market. Willis Corroon al-

Buys 2.33 20.95 61.69 2.355 0.883 11.38 9.96 3.00 474 13.26 1.16 5.994 209.13 0.683 3.383 12.08 301 03 8.25 250.79 12.97 2.49 286516 2.49 2.86516 1.715

Hong Kong \$

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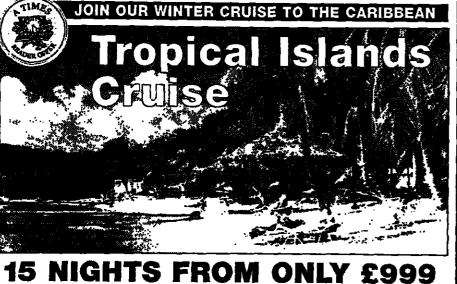
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BA to sell division to **Americans**

British Airways plans to sell its Wheels and Brakes business to AlliedSignal Aero-space, of California, Allied beat competition from a number of rival bidders to be selected as the prospective bidder and the two companies expect a definitive agreement to be completed by the end of the year.

The business provides a maintenance and supply service at Heathrow and employs 65 people of whom 50 will transfer to Allied.

The remainder have agreed to take a severance payment or early retirement. BA expects to sign a ten-year contract with Allied for the overhaul of its aircraft.

Dividend up

MediaKey, the training and publishing group, reported pre-tax profits of £618,000 in the six months to June 30 compared with £802,000 for the nine months to June 30, 1996. The half-year dividend is 0.400p (0,375p) out of basic earnings of 0.7p (1.7p). Operating profits before costs were £1.1 million (£884,000). The shares were unchanged at 40p.

SMH ahead

Sinclair Montrose Healthcare reported a rise in pre-tax profits to £203,000 (£193,000) in the six months to June 30 on sales of £7 million (£1.7 million). Earnings per share slipped from 1.53p to 1.03p. The group has not yet paid a dividend.

New Deal post

Valerie Scoular, director of customer service at British Airways, is to join the Government's New Deal taskforce to reduce youth unemployment.

Corroon expands with German deal

ready owns 20 per cent of Wuppesahl. Deutsche Bank, which at present has a 20 per cent stake in JIA, is expected to take just

> larger company.
>
> The majority will be owned by private shareholders. The new company will have 650 staff and turnover of more than DMI30 million (£45

below 20 per cent of the new,

Talks are under way about the repurchase of a 20 per cent stake in JIA that is held by Alexander & Alexander Services, of New York.

Business links between the two companies will be severed after the takeover of A&A by Aon Corporation, which already owns Jauch & Huebener. Germany's largest

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THE COMPTIMES BM British Midland Bill British Midhard The Airline for Europe TOKEN 17

ust one strategically placed story on the front of the Financial Times yesterday, and the markets zoomed into overdrive. The Footsie hitting an all-time high, the pound shed-ding five pfennigs: how much can be achieved with how little effort when an ingenious spin doctor is involved.

TADA

As they witnessed the excited response to the notion that the Government would soon be announcing its determination to sign up for European Monetary Union, the chaps in Chancellor Brown's office must have been impressed by the effect just a few column inches had achieved. The Treasury was swift to dismiss the tale as "pure speculation", but the markets preferred to believe

We shall probably never know the precise antecedents of the FT's story, but there can be little doubt about the power exerted by the Chancellor's chosen team, nor about their skills in spin doctoring. Two new documentaries show the team in action. It seems they provide ample evi-dence of why there may be some at the Treasury and at the Bank of England who are far from happy with the new regime at Number II.

The determined duo of Ed Balls and Charlie Whelan are not merely the Chancellor's chosen advisers but his hit squad. As part of a Government intent on modernising British institutions, Gordon Brown is set on

Markets and Treasury in a spin

modernising the Treasury and Messrs Balls and Whelan are integral to the process. But their methods, their youth and their very presence has alienated many in the Treasury and at the Bank of England.

The brainy civil servants had been so enthusiastic about Mr Brown's arrival at the Treasury. after having had to cope with 18 years of Tory Chancellors of assorted abilities, they greeted him with applause. But the mood celebration was quickly quashed and morale within the Treasury is now said to be dismal. For some mandarins, seeing power so centralised with Mr Brown and his boys is intensely frustrating. If Sir Humphrey were around, he would most certainly be plotting the downfall of the interlopers, and it might be surprising if there were not a few first class minds currently giving some thought to

just such a scheme. But clearly Mr Brown has every confidence in his chosen advisers, and their apparent enthusiasm for the documentaries indicates that they have no qualms about the way they carry out their roles. Less assured individuals might balk at seeing themselves on screen admitting



to manipulating the press and, so it is rumoured, being less than flattering about the Governor of the Bank of England.

If such a scene is to be shown, it will cause concern well beyond the boundaries of Threadneedle Street. When "sources close to the Chancellor" indicated shortly after the election that the Government would be happy to see Eddie George take early retire-ment, the reaction from the City was strongly hostile.

Fast track to euro would derail UK

I hould Britain really be on its way to join in a single currency, there are plenty of profitable chances for convernce in financial markets, if not on the scale of Italian bonds. The gilt-edged market latched on fast, marking ten-year gilt-edged issues up about £1 or more. Yields remain above 6.5 per cent, a

point above rates on comparable French of German stocks.

in equity markets, sums are vaguer. Yesterday's surge was focused on blue chips so there is some international comparison going on even if renewed optimism that the bull market will keep going coloured reactions. London shares sell at an average of 19 times earnings, which is comparable with Paris or Frankfurt area though their

or Frankfurt even though their economies are at an earlier stage of recovery. The big difference is in dividend yields, where a 3.3 per cent average in London compares with 2.4 per cent in Paris

and 1.4 per cent in Frankfurt.

Any fall in sterling's parity with the mark would help too. But easy hints invite awkward questions. The UK does not pass all Maastricht tests. Doubtless the rest would be waived, but that does not ease the difficulty of fixing parities when short-term interest rates differ so much and when sterling has made no

attempt to shadow the mark. Sterling should fall, but how far? Time would be needed for adjustment by markets, by the Bank of England's monetary policy com-

mittee and, in turn, in the Treasury's budgetary policy.
Time is equally vital for the physical process of converting everything from bank clearing systems to corner shop tills. In countries certain to join, business planning is ahead of the UK. They think the timetbale is short both for 1999 and for the bigger, more mundane challenge of a new retail currency in 2002. In Britain, the central plan-

ning assumption is that the euro will come in on time, but as a foreign currency. Smaller firms do not want to throw money away on something that is not going to happen. The UK would take longer to prepare for the big days once a decision was taken.

Gordon Brown could take Britain straight to 2002, leaving out the formal monetary union in

15 months' time. But the Bank of England's EMU co-ordinators will, if asked, tell him that he must declare for EMU soon if the country is to have much hope of joining up in 2002 without chaos ensuing. A government declare ensuing. A government decision would have to be made early in 1999 at the latest, even if the public's endorsement had to

Figuring it out at Reed

Te all know that calculating circulation figures can be a touch problematic, but consistently overstating them for several years by a factor rumoured to be as high as 25 per cent is a remarkable achievement. Now the discontent achievement. Now the directors of Reed must be asking themselves just why the circulation figures for their travel group directories were audited by a relative unknown in the industry instead of the mighty ABC.

That issue is but one which the company will now have to explore as it heads towards the inevitable protracted bantles in the United States courts. Since most of the advertisers in the directories have been regular

customers, it could be argued that they were happy with the audience that Reed provided, even if it was considerably small-er than they had been led to expect. But that brave contention is hardly likely to stop US lawyers looking for compensa-tion which could start at around £125 million as advertisers demand refunds commensurate with the exaggerations made to them.

Many believed that Reed paid

too heavily to relieve the late Robert Maxwell's administrators of the Official Airlines Guides, even if the figures were not fudged. Now Nigel Stapleton, who was the finance director then, faces the embarrassment of working out just who in the organisation knew what about the figures. What may have started out as a little lie has, as Pinocchio would have expected, grown bigger and bigger.

Interesting reading

Has being passed over for the role of chief executive at WH Smith jaundiced the views of Keith Hamill? His comments in the new annual report certainly provide a welcome antidote to the heavily designered optimism of his colleagues. They talk of sales up 2 per cent at the main chain and witter on about marketing. Hamill reports sales up 1.5 per cent and adds that the increase was "largely due to the sale of surplus stock at discount prices".

Country Casuals blames founders as loss deepens

By Sarah Cunningham

PAYOFFS to Mark and Christina Bunce, the husband and wife team who went from running Country Casuals to trying to buy it, and higher than expected costs involved in disposals, have left the women's wear retailer deeply in the

Tom Adam, who yesterday announced his resignation as chairman, revealed that paying off the Bunces cost Country Casuals some £90,000. Mark Bunce was chief executive and his wife a director of the company. They both resigned in May while trying to ut together a bid for the business they helped to found. The money has been paid in lieu of either of them working the usual notice period. The ompany is no longer in takeover talks with anyone. The company also revealed

yesterday that it had made a loss on the sale of the Elvi and Lerose manufacturing businesses of £5.5 million: El million more than estimated at the time of disposal.

The company blamed the higher loss on an increase in working capital in both businesses before disposal, and unexpectedly high fees to advisers. These fees also cover payments made during negonations with the Bunces.

In all, the company made a pre-tax loss of £6.13 million (£918,000 loss) in the six months to July 26. It will not

pay an interim dividend. Mr Adam, who took over as chairman after the cumpany first lurched into crisis with the resignation of the other cofounder. John Shannon, in 1994, said yesterday that he was leaving having reached the retirement age of 65. He is replaced by John Ketteley, a merchant banker who is currently chairman of BTP. David Lowbridge, managing

director of Country Casuals Ltd, has also joined the main board,

Mr Adam described the talks with the Bunces as "a considerable distraction to key management for much of the first half of the year". Andrew Mills-Baker, chief

executive, pointed out that operating profit in the first half rose 59 per cent to £375,000 and he said that the company had just sold property for a profit of £600,000, which would be included in the second-half accounts. However, he admitted that trading had been disappointing in recent weeks. blaming the particularly warm August.

Like-for-like sales increased 8 per cent in the first half, but sales have since fallen. As a result, same-store sales are ahead just 3 per cent in the year to date. The shares closed down 10p at 91p.



Christina and Mark Bunce negotiated a payoff, while Tom Adam, right, has retired

IBM chief expected to shine at Apple

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK

SAMUEL PALMISANO, the head of IBM's personal comtipped to become the new chief executive of Apple Computer. An announcement from Steve Jobs, Apple founder and interim chief executive, is expected next month. The Apple board has inter-

viewed a range of rising stars in the US technology sector and Mr Palmisano, 44, is said to have outshone his competitors. Last month Business Week

magazine voted him one of the 20 most likely new heads of major corporations. In July, he was made an IBM senior vice-president

Mr Palmisano, who has een at IBM for 24 years, the youngest top executive at the computer manufacturer. He started his way up the corporate ladder as personal assistant to John Akers, the legendary former chief executive. Analysts said Mr Palmisano is being groomed to take over the IBM top job. Apple had to be rescued by Microsoft, the software group, earlier this year and is

now looking to reinvent itself. Mr Palmisano is said to be ideally suited for this task following his success in turning around IBM's service subsidiary, Integrated Sys-tems Solutions Corp.

EU set to give green light to GMG merger

BY DOMINIC WALSH

EUROPEAN competition authorities are poised to give conditional clearance to the proposed £24 million merger of Guinness and Grand Metropolitan. Sources in Brussels claimed

last night that the European Commission had prepared a draft proposal recommending the creation of GMG Brands should be given the green light, provided the two parties make concessions. No indication was given of what the conditions might involve but the options are likely to focus on the disposal of at least one whisky brand or restrictions over distribution rights.

The proposed merger would combine such brands as J&B, Johnnie Walker, Dewar's and Bell's, giving GMG a huge



Greener: confident

market share in a number of European countries, including the UK and Spain. There have been suggestions the sale of Dewar's might be sufficient to satisfy the authorities.

one of several rival companies that oppose the merger, would pounce on any brands that might be offloaded. A final decision from the

Commission is expected by October 27, but one EU source suggested it could come as early as October 15. GMG refused to comment

last night. However, at the Guinness interim results announcement on Tuesday Tony Greener, chairman, said he was confident the deal would go ahead, as planned, in January — in spite of opposition from LVMH's Bernard Amault. Referring to discussions with competition authorities both in Brussels and the US, he added: "We are totally confident we will receive a decision that is totally satisfactory, both to us and the regulators."

Profit hopes lift Berisford

There were suggestions yes-

By Sarah Cunningham

been boosted by strong sales of

SHARES in Berisford rose more than 9 per cent-yesterday after the kitchen and cooking equipment group said that its full-year results, which are due for publication on November 27, would be ahead of market expectations.

Analysts, who had been expecting pre-tax profits of about £31.5 million, swiftly

upgraded their forecasts by about 10 per cent. The shares closed 142p higher at 1722p.
Trade is believed to have

Welbilt cooking equipment to the fast-food business.

The company also announced the appointment of two new board members. Andrew Roake, 45, a former

vice-president of Raychem Corporation, has been made chief executive of Welbilt Corporation, which is based in

America. David Williams, 40, who joined the group in July last year as managing director of Magnet, the kitchens business, has also been invited on

pood).
Firm).

Poor sales hit **GUS** forecasts

By Sarah Cunningham seas subsidiaries "continues to

be adversely affected by the

strength of sterling", the com-

pany said. Pre-tax profits in

the five months to August 31

are "marginally ahead" of last

Tony Shiret at BZW moved

his forecast down from £584

million to £575 million, while

NatWest Markets edged down

from £575 million to £570 mil-

lion. The shares dipped to as

low as 650 p but recovered in late trade to close for a loss of 7p at 680p. The five months to

August 31, last year, included

£7.4 million of exceptional cred-

its relating to VAT. There are no

such credits in the same period

of this year. Tempus, page 31

A DISAPPOINTING trading statement from Great Universal Stores, which cited poor sales from Burberrys. knocked the group's share price and led to profit forecast downgrades yesterday. Lord Woolfson

Sunningdale, chairman, told the annual meeting that sales at Burberrys remained under pressure because of the strength of sterling, particularly against the yen. Turnover in home shopping has shown a "small improvement" in the first five months of the year, while turnover in information services was described

Translating profits of over-

Alexon chief reaps reward of turnround

THE turnround of Alexon, the women's wear retailer, is reaping rewards for John Osborn, its chief executive. The company revealed yesterday that Mr Osborn has made a profit of £487,000 by cashing

in share options. Mr Osborn, who is credited with bringing the group back from the brink of collapse. exercised an option over 300,000 shares at 6512p then immediately sold them on at 228p a share.

In April he made a profit of £257,000 after exercising options, and still has options over a further 430,000 shares. He also holds just over 285,000 shares in the company worth more than £654,000 at yesterday's close

Growth continues at Clinton Cards

By Sarah Cunningham

CLINTON CARDS is continuing its expansion with plans to add seven stores to. its chain by Christmas, taking the total number of stores to 485.

Don Lewin, chairman, said that he sees the scope for up to 800 branches in the UK. The company, which has bought Hall of Cards and shops from Carlton Cards in the last two years. is not planning further acquisitions but will carry on looking for sites for new branches.

Trade in the first half of this year has been good. with same-store sales up 9.9 per cent. Sales growth has

accelerated in the second half, with like-for-like sales growing by II per cent in the seven weeks to September 21. The company's confidence is reflected in a 21.6 per cent boost in the interim dividend from 0.617p to 0.75p. It is payable on

Mr Lewin said he was expecting a good Christmas, which should lead to earnings growth in the second half, when the company traditionally makes all its profits.

October 24.

At the interim stage, the company cut its pre-tax loss from last year's £2.34 million to £1.79 million. Turnover was up from £67.3 million to £71.9 IT'S EASY TO MOVE YOUR MORTGAGE.

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Railtrack faces greater censure if it fails to meet targets

Rail regulator takes on new powers By Christine Buckley, industrial correspondent

THE RAIL regulator yesterday took on tough new powers to tackle Railtrack if the network fails to meet investment

formal duty on investment. The new controls include unlimited fines if Railtrack fails to spend on maintenance and improvements and and passenger representatives gave strong backing for tougher regulatory

John Swift, the regulator, secured agreement from Railtrack for the new sweeping powers in July after threaten-

ing the business with referral to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. Since then he has put the plans out for consultation to the industry and consum-

authorities and passenger groups gave Mr Swift said: "With the implementation of this new licence condition, to

able delivery of its obligations." Railtrack has been criticised for being slow to invest the £16 billion it has next ten years. Railtrack's licence has been amended

pledged to spend on its network over the

via three main proposals which were set out in July - to establish the duty of investment; to give the regulator powers of investigation; and to oblige Railtrack to consult with train operators and funders over their expectations.

Mr Swift said: "Failure to deliver will result in Railtrack being called to account - to me, to its customers and funders, and to the public. The new licence condition gives me the necessary investigatory and enforcement powers to give effect to that public accountability."

Swift: investigatory powers

targets. The move marks the first time that Railtrack has been subject to a

were implemented after rail companies

More than 50 rail companies, local

which it had agreed, Railtrack is entering a new regulatory partnership in its investment programme, and to measurhy does Nomura, Japan's mighty broking house, want to own 6,100 British pubs, 57,000 Army houses and a third of our trains?

The answer lies with Guy Hands.
He is the rather shambling financier who had the gall to doorstep Nomura clutching a business plan three years ago. He was working for Goldman Sachs at the time. Hands persuaded Takumi Shibata, Nomura's then London banking boss, that he should be allowed to use the bank's vast capital base to take assets onto its own books and then lay off that risk by securitisation. Shibata bought the idea, and the new category of creative financial

engineering was born.
Today Hands rules a fieldom of 70 professionals in Nomura's Principle Finance Group. It has completed \$11 billion (£6.8 billion) worth of deals, the latest being this week's £1.2 billion takeover of Inntrepreneur, the country's biggest, but troubled, pub chain. In a week or so it may also have William Hill's string of betting shops in its portfolio.

If imitation is the highest compliment, then Hands must be feeling smug. Not only is the exercise proving extremely profitable for Nomura, but every bank worth its salt is now playing this asset game (at least 35). He points out, though, that the long-term Japanese philoso-

phy gives Nomura the edge.
Hands made his own conversion
while working on a mobile home

Risk-taker puts Nomura's money where his mouth is

deal for Goldman in the sweating heat of Arizona, "It was 120 degrees in the shade, I had a thick English suit on and I lost the deal because the rival bank was prepared to take the risk. I suddenly felt that working as an agent I never put my balls on the line and that this was a lower form of existence than if I put my money or the bank's - where my mouth

A banker with a soul? Surely not. Hands gets excited now. "Remember that Brothers programme in the Seventies? They were merchant bankers who put money in real companies. They cared about the

Now Hands gets the chance to get his hands mucky — he is on the board of several of the companies in which Nomura has invested. "It's like being a headmaster. It shows management that we really care. That is empowering for some, but some find it terrifying.

Hands, bored by selling euro-bonds, had tried to sell his securitisation idea to Goldman but it dared not tread, so, with its permission, he went out hawking his idea.



GUY HANDS: CV

Judd Grammar School Tonbridge. 1978: PPE Mansfield College, Oxford. 1982: Goldman Sachs. 1994: Nomura. Now: managing director of Nomura International's

Principle Finance Group

while waiting to go up to Oxford, the young Hands spent weeks wandering icy North London streets selling encyclopaedia. He still remembers the 459 doors slammed in his face,

He switched to door-to-door selling of local artists' work and at one time had 50 salesmen working for him. This looked so promising at Oxford that he opened a gallery. For Art's Sake, and even took a year out to run it. A nasty property lease and a collapsing building left him with £40,000 of debts, which he cleared. but a taste for risk.

Hands continued his degree, getting a good Third. It's only now that Hands drops his bombshell. He is severely dyslexic. So severely, that his ten-year-old son was spelling better than him two years ago. At school he had to take the sciences although he would have preferred English — and he was examined verbally for his finals. "It would have been too difficult for them to wade through my writing," he says, grinning widely.

His dyslexia is still a beast to slay - a driving force to what is a dogged stubbornness. At 16 he read an Economist article about Goldman mythical hard-working and anni-Establishment — and decided he would work there. Oxford was the only place he applied to.

Even now he makes life difficult

for himself, reading acres of proofs for prospectuses and business plans.

I think everything I do is driven by
the fact that I didn't work hard at school but I must achieve. I would have liked to have been a writer or even an actor — but my pronuncia-tion is bad too, so instead I decided to make money."

And money he makes. Hands swallows hard when asked how many millions, so does the PR woman who is taping. They swal-low in unison and nod and say it is a house rule not to comment. Rumourmongers reckon he may have pocketed as much as £12 million last year.

But he doesn't like spending money - his ruffled, slightly overgrown choirboy appearance and nondescript suit are evidence of that. He lives modestly in Sevenoaks with four children, a Classics-educated wife, a black labrador and drives a Volvo - not the picture of the usual investment banker who rolls off the Goldman sausage machine.

This year he will have taken only ten days' leave and after 14-hour days he takes work home too. He does admit to the occasional 26-hour flight to Hawaii for holidays. "It's the only place they can't get me." Finally he reveals a liking for fine wines, and a small cellar and, when his wife allows, a passion for extremely loud punk music.

MARGARETA PAGANO



Some say Guy Hands earned £12 million last year

The 'Ed and Charlie show' looks behind the spin at the Treasury

Janet Bush

examines

where real

power lies in

economic

policymaking

t was a taste of things to come. On April 3, the day that Labour launched its election manifesto, Ed Balls, Gordon Brown's chief economic adviser, gave a graphic picture of how the reasury mandarins would be expected to bend to the will of the new Chancellor.

He was talking, intense but smiling with the excitement of it all, to a fly-on-the-wall documentary crew from Scottish Television about the windfall tax. It was far more than an idea, he said. Brown and his team meant to arrive at the Treasury on May 2 with the legislation drafted, the legal position sewn up, all the numbers crunched, the documents prepared. They would "arrive on May 2, drop it on the Permanent Secretary's desk and say 'Now, implement it!"

Scottish Television has made two films to be shown on the coming two Tuesdays. The first follows Brown's team in the



Charlie Whelan and Gordon Brown tell the press what to think. Their methods will be seen in two documentaries

final months of the election campaign to the triumphant morning of May 2. The second, which started filming only hours later from inside the Treasury as the new Chancellor was clapped in by ecstatic civil servants, provides us with an astonishingly frank glimpse

subject to such outside scrutiny. The mandarins, used to the subtle business of private ad-

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virgin atlantic

of Brown's team in power.

his days as a researcher at Scottish Television. The Treasury has never been We are the Treasury is per-

> Weeks before the film was due to be shown, enough was rumoured of its contents to have long-serving Treasury mandarins and the top brass at the Bank of England on flustered red alert. The title We are the dominant role now played in the life of the institution by the small team of advisers that the new Chancellor brought with him from Opposition. Ed Balls, once a leader writer for the Financial Times and now the Chancellor's chief economic adviser, and Charlie Whelan. his canny and combative press secretary, are so omnipresent that it could as easily be called

the "Ed and Charlie show". The film takes us through Brown's dramatic first few weeks in office, including the

vice being given behind closed doors, were pretty dismayed when they realised the extent of the intrusion. But the new Chancellor had given his personal permission to a documentary film-maker with whom he had worked during

haps one of the riskier exercises undertaken by Brown in his ed to use his public displeasure drive for open government. Just as the Chancellor's coterie of special advisers and spindoctors have been trying to play down persistent rumours of bad blood between them and the "official" Treasury and the Bank of England, the film threatens to lay all the simmer-

momentous decision to give the

Bank of England independence and, within days, to strip away its supervisory powers. It was well documented at the time that Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, was upset with what he felt was the way the supervision news was sprung on him without proper consultation. It was also alleged — but never proven nomic forecasting. that the special advisers want-

to ease him out of his job. But the merest whiff that Mr George, popular in the City and regarded as a safe pair of hands, might be under threat was enough to mobilise the financial markets in his defence. The Governor seemed safe and Mervyn King, the Bank's director of economics and a trusted and true Bank insider, was appointed as one

of two Deputy Governors. This semi-public spat is now dismissed as history by the Chancellor's men. However, the discontent rumbled on for quite some time. Negotiations Treasury on the drafting of the Bank of England Bill were so sour during one spell in the summer that there was talk of virtual non-cooperation, of a mood close to volcanic.

In the documentary, Ed Balls is believed to have been captured on camera being less than complimentary to the Governor in those early days. The hatchet may since have been buried, but Mr George is not likely to be comfortable for history to be rerun on film in such a public way. Nor are the Treasury mandarins likely to thrill to a portrait of power so centralised in Mr Brown's private office. Many privately complain that they do not feel involved in policymaking, many are still licking their wounds from the loss of the power to decide interest rates and, with it, their jealously guarded role of eco-

One of the most concrete manifestations of change is that the top-level post of Treasury chief economic adviser. currently held by Sir Alan Budd, is effectively being downgraded. Sir Alan has long been one of a triumvirate of grade two civil servants who serve under Sir Terry Burns, the Permanent Secretary.

🥆 his year. Steve Robson was promoted to swell this count to four, but the number will fall to three again when Sir Alan leaves shortly to take up his place on the Bank's monetary policy committee. The Treasury says a chief economic adviser will be appointed, but

not at grade two. Treasury insiders wonder whether there will be many takers for this job given Ed Balls's role. All of this has become a favourite focus for gossip in City dining rooms and Whitehall drinking holes. There is a measure of sheer fascination mixed with a queasiness about what it all means for the established pattern of

But the advent of this film portrayal, which will offer con-

does not seem to worry Mr Brown's men much. Word has it that they thoroughly enjoyed seeing the rough cut. Why should they worry? Their take-over of the Treasury has not been a random happening based on force of personality, but rather a strategy as carefully planned as everything else about Labour's accession to power. Their assumption of centralised control of the Treasury from inside has been a brilliant entryist tactic of which the Militant Tendency would have been proud.

Downing Street apparently believed taking decisive control of the Treasury was an absolute must if Gordon Brown was to push through his radical agenda of new openness and modernisation of Whitehall's most powerful department.

Successive Labour administrations always felt that their electoral Achilles' heel was economic and that they were always thwarted by the mandarins who had a visceral distrust of old Labour tax and spend policies, now resolutely junked. Time and again. Labour

governments responded by trying to establish alternative. more sympathetic economic power bases in an attempt to control what they often regarded as the malign influence of the Treasury: the Central Policy Review Staff, the Department of Economic Affairs and the National Economic Development Council. All failed to

secure a lasting power base. take control from within to try to ensure that the mandarins are harnessed closely to the

Chancellor's agenda. There has been some resistance, particularly, it is believed, among senior Treasury officials. The sense of unease is, of course, partly a generational problem, although it is thought that Sir Terry Burns, perenni ally rumoured to be contemplating life outside the Treasury, wants to stay and will. And many more junior officials are enthused by work on a new agenda, excited to be part of the process of modernisation.

It is to the credit of a determined and confident new Chancellor that Scottish Television has been allowed a fly's-eye view of this tumultuous chapter in the life of the Treasury, even if it means hurting a few wellestablished egos.

Out of the Shadows is shown on ITV on Tuesday, September 30, at 10.40pm. We are the Treasury is shown in the same slot on Tuesday, October 7.

Heat is on for computer chip manufacturer

Oliver August reports on a US

federal investigation into Intel

udgment day may at last have dawned for Intel, the US microchip monopolist. For years it has been riding roughshod over market rules and used its dominant position to keep out competition. More than 80 per cent of computer chips worldwide come from the Intel stable. Few of its customers can afford to dismay the Silicon Valley scion by buying from one of its few and meagre rivals.

Computer manufacturers have repeatedly complained that Intel threatened punishment whenever the issue of competition came up. The chip shop's favoured weapon is to hint that delivery times for existing orders might slip. In the computer industry. where fashions are more short-lived than in the clothing trade, even short delays can be fatal while litigation

would take years. Now the Federal Trade Commission, the US anti-trust authority, has stepped in. It is already investigating Intel's \$400 million (£247 million)
acquisition of Chips & Technology, a graphics specialist. The new inquiry will be broader. The FTC subpoena says it will look at "unfair and deceptive practices in or affecting commerce by acting to monopolise".

Analysts say any number of computer companies could have instigated the inquiry. Linley Gwennap, editor of Microprocessor Report, said: There is no shortage of people who could be behind this. Intel is the major supplier of virtually any semiconductor technology to the PC market." One company partieularly keen to see Intel suffer is Digital Equipment Corp. It is involved in a nasty patent infringement suit against Intel and has accused Intel of monopolistic practices. However, the knives are not only out in corporate offices but also among the end-users of

Intel equipment. The Internet features a whole magazine, frequently updated and read by eight million people, devoted to slating Intel. Fury was ignited by the constant re-engineering of products and swapping around of gimmicks. Intel. along with Microsoft, its software brother, stands accused of forcing consumers into a vicious circle of having to buy new products every year just

to stay level with technology. Everyone who has bought a PC or laptop in recent years will have shared the experience of possessing the best computer available at Christmas, and having an ugly piece of dinosaur equipment in the new year. New machines are suddenly twice as fast, four times more powerful and infinitely more compatible.

Crusading on these people's behalf is Jason Walter. He writes in the latest edition of x86 Monthly News: "As many newusers and upgraders are opening the boxes to their brand new Pentium II-based systems, another group of people sit angrily as Intel has shut the door on the hopes that Pentium Pro users will be able to upgrade to the new Pentium II. We must ask the question of what is a reason-able timeframe for a standard to be supported, what kind of migration path should be available and when, and what incremental upgrade is just

too small to be useful."
So far, public criticism has failed to dent Intel's prospects. Its shares are trading at an astronomic price/earnings ra-tio of 25. A 1991 FTC investigation ended in a whitewash for the company. Since then its competitors have strengthened slightly.

arlier this week x86
Monthly News reported: Towards the end of the year, both Cyrix and Advanced Micro Devices will start to unveil new chip technologies that could well raise the competitive pressure on chip giant Intel." Rival chips already come close to Intel's performance and cost up to 30 per cent less. Computer manufacturers such as IBM and Compaq have agreed to use these chips in their low-cost consumer products.

But the sprouting competition has done little to sour Wall Street's love affair with Intel. Over the past year its shares rose from \$40 to \$100. On Tuesday, Intel won another endorsement. DLJ, the investment bank with Wall Street's highest-rated research arm, upgraded its Intel rating.

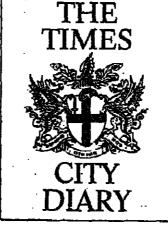
Here Dyke goes

IT IS known as the embourgeoisilication of the terraces, the middle classes flocking to the football grounds. Everyone in the public eye has to have a favourite football team. in the same way that they need a favourite Spice Girl. A non-executive directorship has even more cachet than a season ticket - ask Ken Clarke, a man with years of experience of playing the common man and now a fixture in the directors' box at Nottingham Forest.

Latest recruit to the business of football is Greg Dyke, Manchester United Ian man and boy - aren't they all? He is joining the United board as non-executive director. Dyke, 50, was chairman of ITV Sport. for four years, so he knows a bit about the game. United is on the point of signing a TV deal to create a dedicated channel for all those saddos who need a daily helping of secret. The agents confirm it. Ideal for

chief executive of Pearson Television. A marriage made in heaven. Except that the United deal is widely expected to be with BSkyB and Granada, and not with Pearson, And Dyke may not be there much longer. if rumours of a bust-up with Marjorie Scardino, Pearson chief executive, are true. And they are true.

□ DETAILS of a *refurbishment opportunity" - estate agent-speak for a clapped out old office block - reach me. Situated in sunny Lambeth, 270,000 sq ft, 21 storeys, with basement car parking. But does my memory fail me, or was Century House not once the headquarters of M15? That is the one we are allowed to know about. as against Ml6, whose existence, like the Post Office Tower, was once a state



the booming flat market, what with all those sound-proofed rooms, and the funny acrials on the roof would come in handy for satellite Tv. Just one problem, the name. So, sort of. naff and millennial. My informant suggests Spooks Corner. I rather like

Own show

MORE news from the acronym-ridden advertising group GGT. A few weeks ago I reported the resignation of Linda Kaplan-Thaler, the creative supremo at Wells Rich Greene, GGT's New York arm. GGT said Ms Kaplan-Thaler would stay as a consultant while she wrote an opera. Now it seems that she is doing neither. Instead she has formed her own agency, imaginatively called Kaplan-Thaler and Co. and clients are already following. More worries for poor Mike Greenlees, I fear.

Talking shop

I AM invited to the Royal Society of the Arts for a conference arranged by the Green Alliance. "Changing Consumer Choices" will debate how Government and industry can promote sustainable consumption, and how manufacturers and retailers can best

play their part in educating the consumer and saving the planet. A stellar cast list of speakers include Ritt . Bjerregaard, whom you will all know as EU Commissioner for Environment. Nuclear Safety and Civil Protection and whose very existence, I can tell you, allows me to sleep easily in my bed. Plus Michael Meacher, our Environment Minister, and the heads of the UK Ecolabelling Board and the Energy Saving Trust Just one thing missing. Not a single manufacturer, not one solitary retailer.

Flag waving

ADDING to the crowd at the summit of Mount Everest for next spring's climbing season is Lewis McNaught. head of UK retail at Gartmore. McNaught has a hidden agenda. though. Halfway up Everest is the flag of the fund manager Perpetual. McNaught intends to tear it down and replace it with his own.

MARTIN WALLER

STOCK MARKET

halts export of ared carriers'

tilly for Davies

in Brown tops boll

running into some resistance the Princess n mid afternoon trading, a shares to edge higher. By the close 950 million shares had changed hands. The immediate source of inspiration was a press report that the Government was about to unveil an EMUfriendly stance, increasing the

> Government was testing the water ahead of next week's party conference. The apparent shift in attitude towards EMU will, says Bob Semple, strategist at NatWest Markets, "underscore a more positive view towards equities and gilt". Looking forward, he added. much will depend on what moves the Government makes towards bringing forward

possible timing for a referendum. "I am not surprised at the reaction given what's been happening in the bond market, said Tim Huddart, equity strategist at Merrill Lynch. With lower yields there is a

with a 36-point jump and

having expected a quiet day.

and the upward pressure com-

pounded the problem of short-

age of stock. The market was

supported by gilts where the

December future put on two

points at its best, and after

possibility of sterling joining

the monetary union after its

1999 launch. The markets

needed little persuasion that

the story had substance. There

was also the feeling that the

clear upside for equities." Amongst FTSE 100 stocks banks and insurers led the front with an 8512p rise to Bank of Scotland rose 45p to 518 p. helped by analysts comments. Among the best of the other banks Royal Bank of Scotland rose 61p to 719p, Barclays added 1352p to Elo.64 and HSBC 141p to



David Price, left, and David Shipman saw Lavendon rise

£21.65. Overall the retail banks sector rose 6.34 per

Grey market trading of Northern Rock also rose, with a range of 414p to 424p quoted by IG Index. Dealings begin on October 1 but it has emerged that 43 per cent of free share recipients have decided to cash them in.

E12.2512, while Glynwed put on 175 p to 284p.

The engineering and vehicles sector scored the strongest rise overall with values rising nearly 9 per cent helped by the likes of GKN, with news of a bid approach for T&N provided a boost, described by one dealer as "the icing on the cake". T&N shares climbed 60½ p to The strong gilts market 2422p after the £1.25 billion

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CLARE STEWART

British Acrospace was hit

by concerns over orders from

Saudi Arabia and Indonesia.

The crash of the Garuda airbus and the Government's

recent block of two arms deals

combined with uncertainties

over negotiations to resolve

the fate of the two British

nurses in Saudi Arabia. BAe

Brewers again looked flat in

closed down 13½p at £16.21.

the wake of this week's mixed

trading statements. Scottish &

Newcastle fell 9p to 714p,

Greenalls 52p to 3942p,

Vaux 3p to 2542 p and Greene King 2p to 703p. Wolver-

hampton & Dudley, where one of its director sold 5,000

shares at 517p, ended off just a

A profits slump and warn-

ing left Industrial Control

Services nursing losses of 78 p at 65p, while Lavendon

Group, whose chairman is

David Price and finance direc-

tor David Shipman, hit a new

high, closing at 278 p. up 2p.

102p to 101p after Fishers International withdrew its

☐ GILT-EDGED: A busy

day's trading saw prices

marked higher in the morning

with upper levels then held.

Dealers reported the strongest

demand for the five-year

The December series of the

£1191832 in a volume of

190,000 contracts. At the

shorter end Treasury 8 per cent 2000 rose £716 to

£1032532; Treasury 8 per cent

2015 ended up £516 at £115316.

□ NEW YORK: Blue chips

held early gains during the morning, with the Dow Jones

industrial average 60.91 points higher by midday at 7,908.92.

Hambros Insurance fell

penny at 519p.

takeover offer

sector.

First Leisure dipped 612p to 276p on whispers of a profits warning looming, while Manchester United rose 12p to 6612p, after the appointment of Greg Dyke, chairman of Channel 5, as a non-executive director. Capital Radio ended 10p lower at 46712p, after the resignation during the week of Richard Eyre.

underpinned insurers with General Accident up 8912p to £10.80, Royal & SunAlliance up 4612p to 587p and Prudential 52½ p ahead at 684p.

Utilities put on good rises, notably United Utilities, up 39½p to 750½p, and Thames Water, up 43p to 860½ p.

Exporters were also clear beneficiaries as sterling slid back against the mark and dollar. TI Group rose 542p to 664p with GKN up 90p to £14.19½. Siebe rose 62p to bid approach from Federal-Mogul of the US. Property groups enjoyed

strong rises as worries about rises in interest rates were calmed, with British Land up 33p to 6472p, Great Portland 14p to 240bp and Land Securities 2012 p to 971p.

Not all shares were swept higher by the market euphoria. Reed International fell 492p to 5362p and nearly eight million shares changed hands. The group revealed

MOVERS	OF TH	E WEEK	
Current prices track913½p	Week's change +80½p	Tube se	il off bene

			Tokyo: Nikkel Average 17994.71 (-347.25)
Data		T 1 1 1 • C.	Hong Kong:
Kepor	ion Evil	J helps lift	Amsterdam: EOE index
			Sydney: AD 2775.6 (-3.6)
HISE	to one-da	ay record	Frankfurt: 4080.78 (-67.80)
	to one we	ay record	Singapore: Straits
THE bulls stampeded back onto the stock exchange floor yesterday, trampling worries		that irregularities in circulation statements had been di	5- General
about interest rates and Black Monday anniversary nerves		covered at its Reed Trave Group Unit and that a charge to 1997 profits would result.	
underfoot. Equines barely paused for		Other conspicuous loser yesterday included GUS, after	
breath as the market opened with a 36-point jump and		its annual statement failed t	o London:
carried on up, cruising past		inspire analysts, and renewe	FTSE 100 5226.3 (+160.8)
previous record levels to peak		sterling on overseas profits	FTSE 250
at 5,224.3, a massive rise of 178		GUS, which has enjoyed	2 FTSE Eurotrack 100 2678.24 (-16.79)
points. By the close the FTSE		recent run, fell back 7p to 680	O FTSE ALI-Share 2445.86 (+66.49)
100 had rung up the largest		on profit-taking.	FTSE Non Financials 2441.64 (+44.73) FTSE Fixed Interest
une-day rise on record, closing		Another gloomy pate	7 FTSE Govt Secs 100.28 (+0.57)
160.8 higher at 5.226.3.		amongst generally buoyar	t Bargains
Dealers were caught short.		retailers was Country Cast	SEAQ VOIMING
navino experien a milet dav. L		1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	

RPIX 157.1 Aug (2.8%) Jan 1987=100 RECENT ISSUES

. 158.5 Aug (3.5%) Jan 1987=100

German Mark 2.8324 (-0.0426)

Exchange Index

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):

NECENT A	93UE	. .	
Antofagasta Cv Uts	406	+	31,
Aram Resources	103	-	2
Bristol & West Pri	1175	+	ı
Cammell Laird	1505		
Computerland UK	14712	-	7
EMI B	1244	+	312
GR Holdings	52':		
Galen Holdings	2795	+	2
Helicon Pubsig	9212		
I S Solutions	13512		
Kingfisher Leisure	185		
Reabourne Merlin	105	+	٠,
SBS Group	1125	_	
Science Systems	1501	•	55
Severn Trent B	36	_	15
Stentor Wts	431:		
Thorn B	201 ₂		
Viglen Technology	57 ¹ 2		
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RIGHTS ISSUES Gearhouse n/p (250) 9212 John Lusty n/p (8) Langdons Foods n/p (I) '...

MAJOR	CHANGES
RISES:	
Norbain	286p (+34'zp)
	944p (+85'20)
	518 sp (+45p)
	664p (+57'±0)
	2200 (+ 190)
	719p (+61p)
	214'ap (+ 17p)
	587p (+46¹ap)
	6840 (+52'20)
	313p (+21p)
	493p (+32½p)
	351p (+22p)
LucasVarity	242p (+15p)
Gr Portland	240'20 (+140)
	847'20 (+49p)
	820'ap (+45p)
	291'zo (+15p)
	647'±0 (+33¢)
1	(47.55)
FALLS:	
	(مدِי19 (19 ي
	4671:p (-10p)
Scot & New	714p (-9p)

Closing Prices Page 26

... 370¹ap (-8p)

TEMPUS

Rock solid shares

THE North/South divide still exists, especially among the share-owning classes. The Newcastle upon Tyne-based Northern Rock says half of its members want to sell their shares because of a lack of familiarity with the cult of share ownership. One in three households in the North East of England stand to gain from the flotation.

The Geordies would rather have the cash, £2,000 per member, than hold on to the shares. Around three quarters of members at the Halifax, Alliance & Leicester and Woolwich held on to shares. Unlucky Geordies had to decide on whether to hold or sell without knowing what the auction price of their shares would be and on the day before a 160point share price rise in London. A decision to

The Northern Rock is deemed to be a high

growth stock, nimble on its feet, and with a small asset base from which to sprout lowcost, high-volume business. Northern Rock's projected earnings growth looks promising.
Aggressively priced loans, administered through a centralised system based in Newcastle, have helped the society's share of new mortgages to outstrip its overall share of total mortgage stock over the past few years.

It has also managed to move away from its regional bias - more than 60 per cent of its new lending is done in the Midlands and the South East. It is poised to reap rewards from

continuing recovery in the housing market.
With a flotation price of around 420p predicted, it is worth holding the stock up to 500p. At that level its earnings multiple will become greater than the Halifax, the price of

even before then could gear

up to make a major purchase that would remove mail

order from the centre of the

group. Despite the distrac-

tions of trading difficulties, it

is probably safe to assume

which is already boosted by technical factors.

decides to block the Littlewoods bid for Free-

mans, a threat to GUS's

dominance of the market

will disappear. Whichever

way it goes, that decision will

be key to GUS's mail order

probably because, if the DTI deal with British Land, and

GUS

THE GUS share price mirrors the view of investors on how close the chairman, Lord Wolfson of Sunningdale, is to coming up with a masterplan. When they think he is focusing on the big picture, the share price rises. When, as yesterday, it looks as if he is struggling to deal with lots of disparate businesses, it falls.

GUS's trading statement showed that retail is currently being difficult, with Burberry having problems coping with the strong pound against the yen. The modest growth in mail order confirms that, long term, this is the most difficult business.

Lord Wolfson has already disappointed the market several times by not saying how he intends to update the creaking mail order side. If he feels in no rush, it is strategy. That aside, GUS has enormous room for mathat the masterplan is being worked upon. This makes noeuvre. It will get £500 vesterday's price fall a good million next Spring from its opportunity to buy. **SMALLER UNIVERSE** FT\$E all-sha

T&N

NO ONE seemed to believe the long-suffering management of T&N, the car parts group, when it said the problems of asbestosis were largely behind it. Plainly the board of Federal Mogul has taken a different view and thinks

now is the time to strike. Being American, Federal Mogul would have a far stronger grasp of the legal problems that T&N faces than other potential suitors. And being in the automotive supply business Federal Mogul may well have grasped the fact that T&N is reaching a period of strong cash generation after cutting and reducing working

The men from Michigan need to convince not only the persuade fund managers at the four big City institutions that control 54 per cent of T&N that 235p is enough. The big funds appear to be

DOLLAHRATES

waiting to see what happens next, whether Federal Mogul will offer more or whether another bidder appears. Similarly, the T&N board

appears in no hurry to re-spond to Federal Mogul and was happy to put out a holding statement saying that it was evaluating the proposal with Rothschilds. Smaller shareholders

should adopt a similar stance and hold on for further

Toad

PUTTING money into a company backed by Noel Ed-monds may not feel like common sense, but Toad is worth down on capital expenditure a second glance. Since it moved from the AIM to the main market last year, the company has been dogged by

But many of these problems - apart from perhaps the last - now appear to have

been addressed. Chris Evans, the biotech entrepreneur behind the company, instigated a dramatic boardroom shake-up earlier this year, and Toad is poised to buy two companies, Laserline and Sigma, which will give it a much improved distribution base and product range.

However, many potential investors will be more excited by the company's latest gizmo: an anti-theft tracking device the size of a snuffbox which can be hidden almost anywhere inside a car. Two big questions remain unanswered: will technology overtake it, and will thieves find a way to locate the tracker or destroy its signal? If not, the potential for licensing deals and European sales is enormous.

An independent consultancy has already valued the dethat the reputation of Dr Evyou get a company which looks worth a punt.

WALLSTREET

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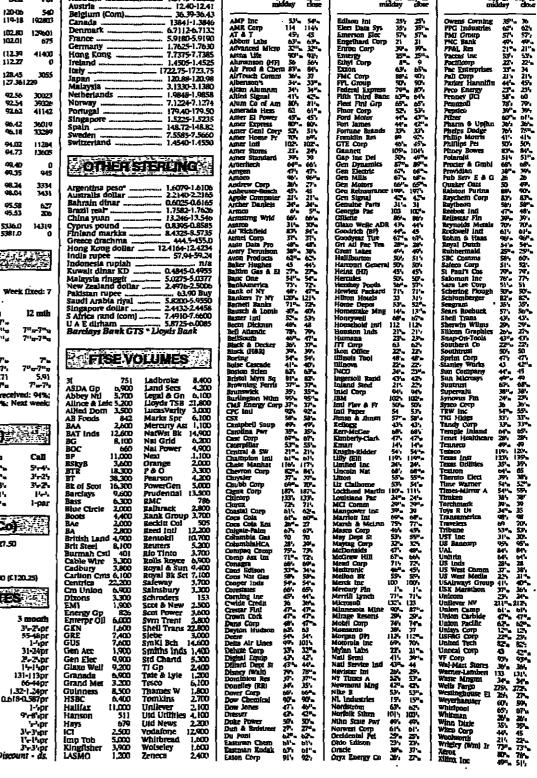
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THE TIMES TODAY

NEWS

Hague ready to abandon peers

William Hague is preparing to abandon the Tories' longstanding opposition to Labour plans to strip hereditary peers of their voting rights.

The unexpected move, which would mark the biggest policy shift since Mr Hague became leader, would put him on a new collision course with the Tory old guard who have always defended the hereditary principle

EMU reports help stock market surge

■ Reports claiming that the Government is preparing for an early entry into a European single currency pushed the stock market to a record high, but caused the pound to plunge. The FTSE 100 closed up 160.8, at 5226.3 Pages 1, 27, 31

War crimes charges

A 71-year-old retired British Rail worker has been charged with war crimes in Nazi-occupied Eastern Europe, police said Page I

Tobacco ban plea

The Government is to press for a Europe-wide ban on the advertising of tobacco.... Assisi earthquakes

Two earthquakes in central Italy killed at least nine people and hadly damaged priceless frescoes Page 3

Burglary with violence A self-taught antiques expert who used violence to force his accomplices to burgle victims was jailed for 20 years Page 5

Two Fat Ladies

America has greeted the arrival of Two Fat Ladies with the polite, nervous smile of someone offered an unidentifiable, pungent forkful of a foreign cuisine ... Pages 16, 23 Vision, Page 13

Trouble on two wheels Anthony Adams was fined for cy-

.....Page 13 the spotlight ... Party time for party

cling "furiously" through Cam-

bridge - and cyclists are under

What a difference an election makes. Next week's Labour Party conference has become the most in demand social and political gathering of the yearPage 18

Winnie's victory

Winnie Madikizela-Mandela has won the right to give evidence in public at the Truth and Reconciliation Commission...... Pages 16, 23

Sumatra crash

All 234 people on board a Garuda Indonesia Airbus A300 airliner died when it crashed in thick haze

Fugitive killer held

Ben Magintyre unfolds the saga of an American hippie era guru who is fighting extradition Page 20

Labour goes for a gay old time

The Labour leadership has approved a gay night at the party conference hotel where Tony Blair and the rest of the Cabinet are staying. The event will rival the more raucous attractions of the traditional Welsh and Scottish eveningsPage 1



Tetsuo the hippopotamus examines his Japanese audience yesterday from the safety of his water-filled glass tank in Tennoji Zoo in Osaka

NEWS FEATURES

English vineyards: English wine-makers are predicting a great vintage after a long summer of almost perfect conditions ... Page 8

Double role: Since the general election. Tony Blair's wife has had to be two people at once: Cherie Booth the Queen's Counsel, and Cherie Blair, First Lady to an increasingly presidential Prime Minister Page 19

Ulster troubles: Mo Mowlem doesn't think the Rev Ian Paisley will come to the talks, "but that doesn't mean you don't try". . Page 21

AS NEORMATION

OPINION ...

Fools rush in: To enter EMU at all would be to hazard Britain's prosperity on a project which is politically flawed. To enter in the wake of the first wave would be to make a mockery of the claim that Labour's position is pragmatic. Tony Blair would never be forgiven Page 23

OBITUARIES

Tom Greeves, architectura conservationist draughtsman: Jimmy Witherspoon, blues singer; Bill Hunter Christie. barrister.

COLUMNS

Simon Jenkins: I am against primitive punishments. I am against them whether the victim is male or female, British or foreign Page 27

Tim Hames: Last month, Labour marked 100 days in office. It did so in a carnival atmosphere. William Hague endured a rather less rapturous anniversary. One can only hope that Ffion has a better honeymoon Page 22

LETTERS

Tory reform; relevance of the Church; the importance of and from DM2.8750 to Page 23 DM2.8324... inquiries.

BUSINESS

Building societies: Aimost half of Northern Rock Building Society members have sold their shares before the start of dealing Page 27

T&N, the components group laid low by asbestosis claims, soared 60p to 2422p after a takeover approach from Fed-Markets: The FTSE 100 index rose 160.8 points, to close at 5226.3. The sterling index

Takeover bld: Shares in

fell from 101.8 to 99.7 after a fall from \$1.6263 to \$1.6053

...... Page 31

.. Page 41

Bjorkman ...

SPORT

Golf: Jesper Parnevik levelled the score at 2-2 after the opening fourballs in the Ryder Cup Page 33 Cricket: Phil Tufnell, the England spin bowler. faces disciplinary action after failing to supply a specimen for a drug

Tennis: Pete Sampras reached the semi-finals of the Grand Slam Cup with an easy victory over Jonas ... Page 40

NATURE NOTES Peter Brookes Page 22

NOON TODAY

Ordure, ordure: Michael Gove and The Times's Perer Brookes Page I lamaican death: Tunku Varadarajan mourns the loss of a friend Page 3 Favourite shop: Lady Cobbold's CRA..... Page 4 Trouser dilemma: The latest wide-legged styles are the answer Page 5

David Blunkett Labour's

Education Secretary is ready to fight Page 8

isider dealing: What did

Washington know about

the bomb plot? ... Page 16

Fashion: For all the glam-

our of the catwalk, behind the scenes casual dress is

the norm Page 48

metro

The People: We, the

People are ready to con-

quer America Page 6

Just life?: Backstage at

the National with Paul

Paul's rage: Mike Pat

tenden finds Paul Draper

railing against the

WEEKEND

... Page 25

... Page 10

... Page 12

Rich kids: .

Rhys.....

Full seven-day Radio & TV

Two Fat Ladies: . Page 13 Paul Hoggart: Page 2 The Arts: The ENO production. 10pm, BBC2.

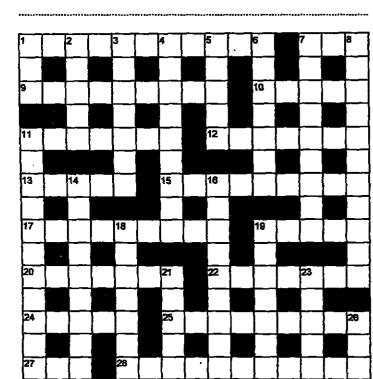
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THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,596

A £20 book token will be awarded to the senders of the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486. Virginia Street, London El 9DD. The names of the winners and the solution will be published next Saturday.

Name/Address .



ACROSS

- A strong company needs backing for a musical? Yes! (11).
 Glossy black spout (3).
- 9 Pot plant the alternative judge's
- put in (9). 10 One in bed reciting numbers of sheep (5).
- 11 Looking to compete with political group (7).
- 12 A person I'd announced as a
- literary giant (3-4).

 13 Very well-conceived sort of prize has a twist in the tail (5).
- 15 Giving more in a ball-game, one about to be over (9).
- 17 Turning out part of army, head of state has little time (9).
- 19 A dim recollection about start of Handel's "Messiah" (5).
- 20 Case in which PM once put clothes (7).
- 22 A minor beating? Exploit a bit of advice, making comeback (3-1-3). 24 Friend has no right to make one
- 25 Cocktail with a kick sick female
- comes staggering in (5.4). 27 Hairy beast has girl in a spin (3).

Solution to Puzzle No 20.590

O O G A N G S LAUNTHEE SUITE S S D E E S X SPTICS CHOTCHET R A W E

wrong? (9). 5 Final stage of motorway put up in the past (5). 6 Precise type of railway service (7). 7 Submarine menace with explo-

28 Clothing accessory ought to drape differently (\$-3).

1 Somewhat heated - losing head

about

4 Feeling numb again - sale going

author's

set to explode? (3).

3 Celebrate

2 Shrub or trees, say (5).

announcement (7).

sive - search below (9). 8 Expert at stuffing tried it with

Ymas cooking (11). 11 Throwing in a double act unsuitable for radio (11).

14 Attack half of what's included in public transport cut (9). 16 Odd cut in play after revision (9). 18 Leaves to celebrate a triumph (7).

19 Reviewed in Times as an artist (7). 21 Banned, thanks to catcall? (5). 23 Edge in very quietly, and smarten

up (5).

26 The final thing duplicated in puzzle, in more ways than one (3).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,595

R L O L B B V A JASEGRO DEMBARNO

LAST WEEK'S WINNERS: R Jukes. Wightwick, Wolverhampton: P Savill, Chew Stoke, Bristol: K Rowland, Embleton. Northumberland: D Love, Claygate, Esher, Surrey: P G Hughes, Martlesham Heath. Ipswich, Suffolk

UK Weather- All regions 0336 444 910 UK Roads - All regions 0336 401 410 0336 401 746 0386 401 747 0336 401 748 0336 401 910 0336 401 388 Inside M25 M25 and Link Roads National Motorways

0336 407 505 The Met Office **Weather by Fax**

World City Weather 💆 🏗 Met Office 0336 41 1216

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AA Car reports by fax

HOURS OF DARKNESS

Moon rises 2.27 am New moon October 1

London 6 43 pm to 6 55 am Bristol 6 57 pm to 7 06 pm Edinburgh 6 59 pm to 7 10 pm Manchester 6 55 pm to 7 15 pm Pencance 7 75 pm to 7 18 pm

New moon October : London 6.45 cm to 6.52 cm Bristol 6.55 cm to 7.08 cm Edinburgh 6.56 cm to 7.12 cm Manchoster 6.53 pm to 7.07 cm Ponzanco 7.07 cm to 7.19 cm

HIGH TIDES

HIGHEST & LOWEST Yesterday: Highest day lemp. Lec-on-the-Solon; Hampshee, 240 (751), lowest day mass Spaceacturi, Combris, 110, 521; highest camfalt no approachte ranta", highest sunshme:

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING

General: Scotland and Northern Instand will have a rather cloudy day but any early mist and local drizzle should clear to allow at least a few bright or sunny intervals Northern England, North Wales and the north Midlands will also have a good deal of cloud at first but these parts will have a better chance of seeing a little sunshine in the attermoon. The south Midlands, South Wales and southern England should soon brighten after a misty start, with some pleasant sunny

misty start, with some pleasant sunny spells developing. Clondon, SE England, Central S England, Charmel Isles, SW England: early low cloud and tog should soon disperse to leave a dry and bright day with sunry spells. A light and variable wind Max temp 21C (70F).

☐ E Anglia, Midlands, E England, S Wales: any early log should clear to leave a marnly dry day with barks of cloud and a sunny intervals A light and variable wind. Max temp 19C (66F).

N Wales, NW England, Lake Dis-

trict. Isle of Man. Central N. NE England: mainly cloudy, but any early mist and drizzle should clear. A tew surrry spells are likely A light and variable wind. Max temp 17C (63F).

☐ Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, Northern Ireland: a cloudy day with limited bright or sunny spells. It should be mainly dry, but occasional drczie is possible at first. Light and variable wind. Max temp 17C (63F).

☐ Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Mo-ray Firth, NE Scotland, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: mainly cloudy with a little drozle near the north-west coast and over the hills. Occasional breaks in the cloud should allow a few sightings of the sun. A light south-west wind. Max tempter (still the country)

Outlooic England and Wales should stay mostly dry with surry spells, but light rain will reach northwest Scotland later

ARGUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

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Washion 35 95 s 23 73 s **Cold front**

Changes to the chart above from noon: low F will run northeactwards and slowly fill; high A

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IN OF SPORT DANNY BAKER SIMON **BARNES** On Dettori **PAGE 43**





WEEKEND MONEY

Where the super rich really, really count **PAGES 51-64**



Can you do your weekly shop on a bike? **PAGES 45-49**

SATURDAY SPORT

ERVE-BACKING OP

Europeans produce level best

FROM JOHN HOPKINS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT, AT VALDERRAMA

States were as evenly matched as anybody could want when darkness ended the raindelayed first day of the 32nd Ryder Cup here yesterday. After the morning four-balls had finished 2-2, the afternoon foursomes were perfectly balanced, too, with the score standing at 3-3 when play was

Colin Montgomerie and a clearly inspired Bernhard Langer took revenge for being beaten by Tiger Woods and Mark O'Meara in the mornvictory by 5 and 3 in the toursomes. Montgomerie was a man transformed after a brief stop for lunch. His erratic play of the morning was gone and, perhaps because of this, he smiled a lot. He and Langer were five under par when they beat Woods and O'Meara in the gathering gloom.

Hardly had the applause for this victory died down than Scott Hoch and Lee Janzen survived a rally by Costantino Rocca and Jose Maria Olazábal. The Europeans won the 17th with a birdie but, at the 18th, Olazabal drove into the cork trees that line the hole and the ball bizarrely ended in a waste bin. After dropping the ball, Rocca hit an heroic second to within ten feet. (1) azabal missed, Hoch holed and the US pair, who had never been behind in the match, had won by the slenderest possible margin.

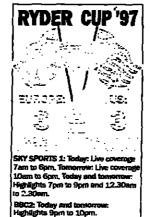
As the day wore on, so it became more and more typical of the closeness of modern Ryder Cups. There were many moments when it looked as though the US might edge into a clear lead, but again and again Europe fought back. Like a general in a medieval

banle, Severiano Ballesteros, the Europe captain, was to be seen roaming the course wearing an earpiece that told him what was going on elsewhere. He was far more conspicuous in his presence than Tom Kite, the US captain, and was fulfilling his promise that he would be a hands-on captain.

In the morning four-bulls, the fearsome Valderrama course was humbled. Olazábal and Rocca were a gener-ous six under par in defeating Davis Love III and Phil Mickelson, while Jesper Parnevik and Per-Ulrik Johansson, despite taking an

excruciating five hours and 42 minutes - the longest fourball match in Ryder Cup history - went round in 64, to claim a famous victory.

After lunch Kite brought in fresh faces, pairing Hoch with Janzen and Justin Leonard with Jeff Maggert, thereby giving every one of his team a game on the first -day. Ballesteros sent out all but one of the men that he had used in the four-balls for the afternoon foursomes. Johansson was



Tiger by the tail

RADIO 5 LIVE: Today: 8.30am to 7pm, Tomorrow: 11am to 7pm,

dropped for Ignacio Garrido. Staying true to seven of his players was a decision that may have been forced upon Ballesteros by Ian Woosnam's poor form, or it may have been his choice. It may backfire over the course of this event. For now it is sufficient to say that two of Ballesteros's oldest players, Langer, who is a few days past his fortieth birthday. and Nick Faldo, who was 40 in July, seemed inspired by the

Faldo, in particular, was like a man reborn and one stroke in the afternoon foursomes demonstrated how much better he was playing than he had in so many strokeplay events this year. A most delicate bunker shot on the 7th in the foursomes set up a victory on that hole to level the match against Leonard and Maggert. On the 8th it was Faldo's shot to no more than two feet that enabled his partner, Lee Westwood to make a birdie and take a one-

It does not rain often in Spain at the end of September, but it certainly did yesterday morning. A torrential storm hit the Costa del Sol just after 5am. Within half an hour bunkers were full of water, the course was unplayable and play was delayed for nearly two hours.

No sooner had it started than Rocca and Olazabai dovetailed as smoothly as Ballesteros had hoped they would when he put them together, citing their confidence in each other and the able together. Such an insight was borne out when the two players recovered from being two down after II holes to score Europe's first point after a remarkable run of three birdies and an eagle in four holes, starting at the 13th.

Westwood, though, ran into the pressure of the Ryder Cup in much the same way as a runaway train hits the buffers. After two birdies in his first three holes of the morning four-ball, the second of which enabled he and Faldo to take a one-hole lead over Fred Couples and Brad Faxon, his game disintegrated. He contributed little to the partnership for 12 holes.

Of greater concern , to Ballesteros and the Europe team was the poor play of Montgomerie, who hit only three fairways and four greens all morning. After declaring a number of times recently how much he wanted to play. Woods it was ironic that when he dià he found Woods off form, yet was even more off game himself. Montgomerie's driving was very wayward — an uncharacteristic fault that has bothered

him for much of the year.

There is something fitting in an event such as this when match after match ends on a crescendo. Three of the four morning matches were settled on the 18th green. The excitement centred first on the sight of /Vickelson missing a sixfooter that would have halved the top match. This was followed by Faldo failing to hole from ten feet for a birdie that would have won Europe the hole and halved the match. And then Parnevik hit another crisp approach, holed from nine feet for a second successive birdie to ensure Europe's second point of the



Parnevik salutes the putt that gave Europe a share of the four-balls yesterday at Valderrama

Blurring the image of a charmless man of steel

🕇 his week at Valderrama, Nick Faldo wondered aloud how the course would look with 30,000 people on it. "There were only 4,000 out there today," he said. "Was it 4,000?" "More like 8,000," someone volunteered. Faldo put his hands behind his head and laughed. "Well, 4,000 went round with my match.

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At that moment of pure typical bumptiousness, I realised why Faido continues to inspire such ambivalence after 21 years in the game. You can't love this man, because he's charmless. But at the same time, he's a hero. Faldo's admirable sporting qualities include toughness and pluck and fantastic talent. He has won three Open Championships and three Masters, and this is his eleventh Ryder Cup. Not surprising that you'd rather be one of his 4,000 than anybody else's.

Around Ryder Cup followers, of course,

you only have to say the words "one down and two to play," and people go all mistyeyed, because at the last match, in 1995, such was the singles position from which Faldo recovered to birdie the 18th, beat Curtis Strange, turn the match and earn the undying love of Severiano Ballesteros. Faldo got up and down from 90 yards and it was fab

But if "one down and two to play" paints an acceptable picture of the man, the words

"midlife crisis" get a less positive response, because it sounds judgmental. But why is a midlife crisis a disgrace? It happens to most people - sometimes it's even a good thing and, anyway, Faldo has all the symptoms. In the past two years he has left his wife, turned 40 and chosen to live in the United States with a youthful girlfriend who has a silly made-up name beginning with B and who looks like Miss America. Did you know that when a man leaves his wife, in 75 per cent of cases it's for a woman with longer hair?

That all this upheaval is reflected in Faldo's golf is understandable. Form in this sport is so precarious that the Chaos Theory might have been built on it: a butterfly beats its wings in the Southern Ocean and Tiger Woods misses a putt at Valderrama. Faldo's concentration is legendary, yet his tendency at the Open this year to consider each shot as if silently reciting the Lord's Prayer (and then throwing in The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayam) must betray something of his state of mind. Nevertheless. Faldo strikes a glamorous

figure. Being built for athletics and 6ft 11in (or is it 7ft 2in?) is hardly a disadvantage. Between the clubhouse and the 1st tee, he strides at breathtaking speed through the adoring fans, randomly snatching proferred pens and baseball caps and signing them. If the fan wants his hat and pen back, he must canter beyond the bystanders, keeping pace. Faldo has a large face and looks like Harrison Ford. Moreover, when dressed in the navy biouson of the Europe Ryder Cup team, he looks like Harrison Ford in a really good cop movie.

No one knows yet who will be the hero of this Ryder Cup, but if it comes down to mental resilience, midlife crisis or not, Faldo is unlikely to let his team down. I wish he'd halved his first match yesterday with an heroic putt, but I'm sure he wishes it more. Tom Lehman says you can tell from Faldo's body language that he believes he's the only player on the course — but at the Ryder Cup it's different. He just knows he's the most important player on the course.



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Woods forces Montgomerie to cut up rough

TIGER WOODS uncoiled with a languid grace that disguised the power generated hy his swing. He looked into the distance, saw his drive describe a gentle arc into the heart of the 5th fairway and laughed. It seemed ungracious to inquire whether he was being intimidated by Col-

in Montgomerie.

Europe's leading player, next on to the elevated tee. carved his drive into deep rough. His eyes bulged, as if he had swallowed a lazy, latesummer wasp, and he kicked out at fallen leaves from the cork trees that framed the nearby waterfall. It seemed indelicate to ask his opinion of Tiger's temperament.

Wonds was enjoying his Ryder Cup debut hugely. He had just made his first birdie, give himself and Mark O'Meara a lead that they never lost. The only birdie Montgomerie and Bernhard match yesterday was conceded to them on the loth green, when a 30-foot putt by O'Meara guaranteed the Americans a 3 and 2 victory.

Inevitably, a television interviewer immediately cornered Woods and brought up Montgomerie's credentials as a cheerleader. Was the win a direct response to the Scot's strictures about the suitability of his game to Valderrama's verdant acres? Tiger took his lead from his partner, who was on the other side of the camera, shaking his head with theatrical intensity.
"No," Woods said, firmly,

with a forbidding glare. "We just showed up and played our own game. We hit some loose shots but got away with them because we made some key birdies. It was just a case of grinding it out." O'Meara eamed, like the surrogate father he has quickly become.

Montgomerie was not available for comment. He commandeered a buggy to take him directly to the practice ground, where his wife delivered a hasty sandwich as he prepared for the afternoon rematch in the foursomes. in the trees than Valderrama's resident nature consultant, the self-imposed punishment was

Woods, meanwhile, had acquired a bodyguard, who escorted him through the crowds to the United States team-room. It was a stark reminder of the flip side of fame. He will never have the



CUP DETAILS

Foursomes: To complete: N Faldo and L Westwood (2 up) v J Leonard and J Maggert (after 15 holes); J Pamevilk and I Garrido v T Lehman and P Mickelson (level after 12)

TOMORROW Morning — 12 singles

luxury of being judged solely by the simple values of sport. He is a symbol of cultural diversity, a commodity.

At times yesterday, he had he demeanour of a child released on a long-awaited school trip. When O' Meara hit a perfect eight-iron close to the flag at the 5th, Woods held his hand as they walked down the fairway. They live close to each other, in Orlando, Florida, and regularly travel to-gether on the USPGA Tour.

"We asked to play with each other," O'Meara said. "We just get on well. He's a good kid, a good friend, and I have tremendous respect for his game. He has an unbelievable talent and realises he is going to be around for a long time. He's been telling me how



Woods and O'Meara toast victory on the 10th

Captains struggle in face of leading questions



much this means to him for

There is an endearing inno-

cence to some aspects of his behaviour. He gives strangers the courtesy of addressing them as "mister" when intro-

duced and was suitably re-

spectful when former

President Bush announced

himself on the practice ground. "We're sure gonna have some fun today," the politician burbled, "Yessir,"

But the moment Bush left, to renew acquaintances with the

Commander of the Sixth Fleet,

Woods retreated into himself.

He conspicuously failed to join the high-five good luck

rituals of his colleagues before

play began, and, under pres-sure, his language became

The match was good-

natured - Montgomerie chat-

ted idly to O'Meara about

airline schedules on the first

tered Langer's presence on the

l6th fairway, when it was

almost over. His most colour-

ful outburst, after he had put a

nine-iron out of bounds at the

back of the 13th green, was

greeted by a stunned silence.

The galleries generally chose to utter such inanities as

"Go on Tiger. Chew 'em up

and spit 'em out." By the time

Montgomerie got around to

9th fairway during the after-

noon round, the European pair had clearly digested the uncomfortable lessons of the

morning.

Woods was playing poorly and he and O'Meara were

three down at the turn, on

route to a 5 and 3 defeat. His

character had changed, along

'I ve grown up a lot in the

last 12 months," Woods said.

This has been the longest

year ever, man. I've had to

change as a person, because

I've had to deal with so many things that a 21-year-old

doesn't normally have to deal

with. That's all part of the

challenge of accepting I'm a

harsh. Had Woods's parents

been around when the gloom

Life's little lessons can be

zallow, sullen, youth.

but Woods only regis-

came the reply.



is no longer the only one losing sleep over this Ryder Cup. The ferocity of the storm that blew in from Africa yesterday, lash-ing the coastline below errama and dislocating everyone's expectations, may Europe captain, who, dicing with his team strategy and his pairings as he once diced with. the elements of his own game, came up against the beacon of calm that is his opposite number. Tom Kite.

For hours their attempts to take a decisive lead for Europe or the United States different kind: what can captains really do when they are in the hands of a dozen other men, when it is the talents, the temoeraments and the stamina when exposed to fierce competition that distingindividuals under duress?

From the very beginning the different leadership styles were evident. Ballesteros, disstalked the 40 yards between the practice green and the 1st tee, fidgeting, swotting mercilessly at an insect that dared to settle on the nape of his neck. talking, cajoling, touching and settling himself into the

role of compulsive media star. You can take the club out of such a golfer's hands, but you ma, the hypnotic attraction between man and the camera that, in this case, was transmitting his efforts to 700

descended on Valderrama yesterday evening, they might have reminded him of a million viewers worldwide. They were to see snatched couple of homilies. Pride inmoments of Ballesteros's efvariably precedes a fall, and fervescence, the manner in he who laughs last, like which he finds it impossible to leave alone the momentum of Montgomerie, tends to laugh his team. Rarer would have



On the air: Kite, the United States captain, stays in touch with developments around the Valderrama course

been the camera shots of Kite, for he was a captain content, a sense and a far less obtrusive figure who sought the background rather than the

At the height of this fascinating temperamental pas de deux was an astonishing altercation between Ballesteros and Jesper Parnevik on the of the Spanish captain's wild cards, his own selections; but did he trust him entirely? From a distance of a few yards it seemed not, as Ballesteros hectored the Swede, who subsequently two-putted the hole. Intensity poured forth from the captain's mouth, fire ignited in the Swede's eyes; and yet, by the end of the four-ball,

'Kite sought background rather than limelight'

there was gratitude between

At the 17th, the hole redesigned by Ballesteros himself, Parnevik received a firm Casa Club. the 18th, Parnevik, who played with his fellow Swede. Per-Ulrik Johansson, sank a putt of 18 feet to win the contest against the experienced Americans, Tom Lehman and Jim Furyk.

Afterwards, Parnevik spoke of the men who actually competed, and deliberately not, one suspects, of his non-

playing captain. He admitted that Lehman, holing a 60-yard pitch at the 15th and again 18th, had fired his own competitive urge. He spoke of his him so well that they could pull each other back from

despair. Ballesteros, though he surprisingly replaced Johansson with Ignacio Garrido, thereby increasing the Latin tempo in the late afternoon foursomes, spoke of the great comeback of the Swedes, which he admired as much as he did

the comeback of Costantino Rocca and José Maria Olazabal. "It is a pity," Ballesteros said with a chilling directness, "that Colin [Montgomerie] and Bernhard Langer were not able to catch the rhythm. We are as we

He was hardly that. By 5 o'clock in the afternoon, with hours still to go, Ballesteros which itself had rivers of sweat and, together with the scalp, showed how oppressive the weather, as much as everything else, remained, Kite, on the other hand, rarely looked unruftled; a little peeved when shots were dropped or leads were surren-

RESULTS FROM VALDERRAMA

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TOTE FESTIVAL HANDICAP

EUROPE 3 UNITED STATES 3 Europe names first

Four-balls I M Olazabai and C Rocca bt D Love

and P Mickelson 1 hole
and P Mickelson 1 hole
C Montgomene and B Langer loss to T
Woods and M O'Meana 3 and 2
N Faldo and L Westwood lost to F
Cougles and B Faxon 1 hole
J Pamevik and P-U Johansson bt T
Lehman and J Funk 1 hole
RESULT Funder States 2

RESULT: Europe 2 United States 2

8/1 Dancing Image

11/1 Tumbleweed Ridge

8/1 No Extras

12/1 Faraway Lass

14/1 Crumpton Hill

16/1 Russian Magic

14/1 Neuwest

14/1 Philistar

16/1 Kayvee

18/1 Waypoint

12/1 Young Precedent

Clanger and Montgomerie bt Woods and O'Mears 5 and 3 Otazabal and Roccal lost to S Hoch and L Janger 1 hole Faldo and Westwood 2 up on J Leonard and J Maggert (after 15 holes) Pamewik and Garmdo level with Lehman and Michelson (after 12) PCSU IT - Europe J Hotel State 1 hours

RESULT: Europe 1 United States 1 (with two games to linish because of bad light

20/1 Emerging Market

20/1 Flamboyance

20/1 Tregaron

25/1 Jo Mell

25/1 Volley

25/1 Just Nick

33/1 Omaha City

33/1 Speedball

50/1 Chickawicka

66/1 Ursa Major

33/1 Return Of Amin

50/1 Present Generation

LATEST ODDS: Europe 6-4. United States 4-7. Tie 10-1 (William Hill)

A mericans, by and large, do not think much of foursomes golf, "Scotch foursomes" they call it, condescendingly and with typically carefree disregard for English

usage.
They think that playing only every other shot is an effete pastime, a game for old men, perfectly all right for the limeys but not at all the sort of <u>Pick up the phone</u> PICK UP A £10 FREE BET activity that an all-American boy should be caught pursuing in daylight or without his parents permission.

Consequently, a self-perpetuating myth has evolved that because Americans are not fond of this form of the game. they are no good at it in competitions such as the Ryder Cup. Wrong. They may regard it with slight contempt

brace the concept of four-ball

It's a man's game, this. You play your own ball from 1st tee buddy alongside you who is

doing the same thing. Sometimes he might play a the United States in foursomes, says

Mel Webb, but history shows otherwise

score will be the one that counts. But. hey, that's OK; we're a team here; we're all pulling for Uncle Sam: it's the

The extension of that theory, therefore, is that the United States should be natural fourball players who should, by all that is logical, prosper at it.

Wrong again. Since 1979, but not including this match, Europe and the United States have won five foursomes each, with six halved. Europe lead

Spaniard from the Basque

country and Costantino

Rocca, the burly Italian from

Bergamo, looked made for

Ballesteros sent them over

the top twice to rally the

troops. In the four-balls they

recovered from two down

with six to play to beat Davis

Love III and Phil Mickelson

on the last green, spoiling Mickelson's 100 per cent Ry-

der Cup record with a burst of

three birdies and an exhilarat-

ing eagle in the space of five

holes. Then, after a quick

sandwich, they set off in the

foursomes, where they just

lost a tight, untidy tussle with

Scott Hoch and Lee Janzen.

The Americans won with a

birdie three at the last where

Hoch holed from five feet.

each other yesterday.

balls, with three halved, For

once, statistics come down on

the white knight side of lies and damned lies. The tactics and even the job requirements of the two forms of the game are similar, but with subtle differences. The ideal four-ball combination is a synergy between paso doble

and foxtrot. flashy Ferrari and solid Volvo, haute couture and ready-to-wear serge.

Jesper Parnevik, Costantino Rocca, Tiger Woods, Fred Couples. His partner, the sedate hoofer driving the family estate car while garbed in clothes from Marks and Sparks, will be Joe Steady, hitting the fairway, hitting the green, two putts for par. He is Nick Faldo, Bern-

will be the aggressive one, the

one who will take on the angle

of a dog-leg, the one who will

fire his second shot at the

green at a par-five. He is

hard Langer, Tom Lehman, Mark O'Meara. Foursomes are different in as much as inter-personal relationships form a vital part of the pairing. Rocca and José Mará Olazábal like each other, trust each other, have games that dovetail together. O'Meara is like a surrogate father to Woods on the course. You have to be confident in your partner, know how to work together closer than you will ever have to in four-balls.

You also will need to calculate when to go for the green. who is to take the drive on what holes, who is the better

All these things, and more. enter into the psychology of foursomes pairs. Above all, you must remember the most important foursomes component of all: never, ever, say

PGA douses rumours about Open switch

FROM MELWEBB

IT IS extraordinary how rumours can be ignited, spread with the rapidity of a bushfire and then be doused with equal speed. Three months ago it was suggested that the Open Championship next year might be moved from Royal Birkdale, and yesterday the flames were fanned again at Valderrama with talk that The Belfry was about to lose the right to stage the 2001 Ryder Cup and would be replaced by

Loch Lomand Golf Club. Contained within the Birkdale saga were three mini-rumours: first, that the Birkdale greens, much criticised in the past, had no chance of being good enough for the club to stage an Open: second. that Royal Lytham and St Anne's had been put on stand-by; and third, that at Royal St George's, no tee-time bookings were being accepted

Open Championship

week. Wrong, all three of

It was not long before The Belfry situation was clarified. either. Sandy Jones, the executive director of the PGA, which choose the 2001 venue, moved quickly to set the record straight.

"I'm mystified where this has come from," he said. Moving the match away from The Belfry has never

"It is unfair to both clubs that such suggestions should be made at this time." Jones has had informal discussions with the owner of Loch Lomond, Lyle Anderson, who is hoping the club will be considered as the venue for the match in 2009, but no formal

Olazábal and Rocca are very good friends, which helps but is not vital for a successful pairing. They tend to eat dinner together if Olazábal has found another Rocca's family is not at a soulmate to partner in the Ryder Cup. The dark, intense

tournament with him and they understand each other perfectly, using a combination of Spanish and Italian with some English mixed in. Temperamentally they are suited, for, despite the sultry Latin looks, they have no need for histrionics on the course. Against Hoch and Janzen, they lost the first two holes, but they were all square again by the 6th and went one up

stands behind the green chanted "Chema, Chema", the diminutive for José Maria, when Olazábal hit a great second shot to three feet. Rocca received his own chant when he rolled the putt home nonchalantly, but there were no high-fives, just the ball given to his partner in a

The Italian has his own band of fans - not all of them Italian - some of them wearing T-shirts and visors bearing the legend "Rocky Rocca". He avoided eye contact, to

keep his concentration. The crowd was noisy and enthusiastic - but so silent during shots that often only the

whistling of the wind and the slight buzz of thousands of headphones tuned in to Radio 5 Live's coverage could be heard. It was a real meltingpot. There were Spaniards. Britons, Irish, French, Italian, German, Swedes, Danes

and masses of Americans. The moment of the day, when all the fans, whatever their allegiance, rose as one, arms hauled skywards by some invisible force, was Olazábai's eagle two at the

He hit a wedge from 133 yards to the elevated green. the ball, unseen by him, pitched three feet short of the hole, then disappeared. The pandemonium was universal and the Europeans were back

in the match, all square. Rocca, who had started the revival with a birdie at the 13th, kept it going by holing a good putt for a half in three at the 15th and put his side one up, for good, with a birdie three at the next.

Viva los dos amigos.



Trusting partner to be awesome at foursomes Europe should have an advantage over er in the bright red sports car and the Giorgio Armani attire

and in an ideal world they might rarely subject themselves to it, but they can play it,

all right. On the other hand, the Americans are eager to em-

American way.

to 18th green in an exercise in the assumption of personal responsibility, but it is also incumbent on you to subsume yourself in the interests of the team, because you have a

hole better than you and his

FROM PATRICIA DAVIES WHILE Severiano Balles-

them. has its headquarters at The Belfry and has the right to

been an issue and never will

application has yet been

Latin soulmates make ideal pair teros is on the sidelines, sort of, at Valderrama. José Maria

> when they won the 7th with a birdie three. The crowd in the

Olazábal chips in as

as Ballesteros tries to ignite defiance



Up in the air. Ballesteros follows the flightpath of an approach shot during his often frantic tour of duty

Continued from page 34 dered, more than direct when questioned Ballesteros man-to-man at the 13th, yet still evading obvious contact

with publicity. this quiet American mused on the irony that, having meticulously read the weather patterns for 300 consecutive days. he faced a course sodden by a downpour more fierce than all in his experience.

He was operating the American axiom of "if it ain't broke, don't fix it". Having put together the teams, and more thoughtfully, it seemed. prepared fresh blood - with Scutt Hoch and Lee Janzen tackling Olazábal and Rocca in the afternoon, while Justin Leonard and Jeff Maggert

'Ballesteros took the role of compulsive media star'

Westwood - the American captain at least offered the fresher minds and limbs. It was as if Kite, drawing on experience and on forethought, had anticipated the turnaround that put the teams back onto the fairways halfan-hour after walking off the morning" four-balls.

"I'm tired but happy," Rocca had said in his short lunch break. Tired ... had his captain not envisaged that this, paticularly with a Latin like himself, might rebound? And speaking of rebounds.

there came a moment beyond the imagination of any captain, any controller. It was on the 8th hole that Phil Mickelson, teamed with Davis Love III, over-hit his approach shot. It propelled fearsomely beyond the green. struck a woman on the back of the head, felled her in a gruesome pool of blood, and yet diverted the ball slightly fortuitously 30 feet back in the American's favour.

Mickelson strode swiftly up to apologise as the woman received medical treatment: his caddie handed the woman

a golf ball. The woman, who by chance was American, was still laid flat on the ground, still being comforted by attendants, when Love walked down by her side, and on sented her with another ball. "Oh, Davis ..." the thrilled woman said "you signed it!" And, clutching her souvenirs, at last restored to her feet and gently driven away, she had experienced a moment of sportsmanship that tran-scended the intense competitiveness of the Ryder Cup. The buggy on which she was escorted passed another one, the only blue buggy on the course, driven here and there and everywhere Ballesteros. The captain likes

'A team should be able to sell its league position. Flog it. Do a little trading'

this season to be definitely relegated. Oh, I know, wheyfaced statisticians may argue that it is still mathematically possible for them to beat the drop but the hard truth is that they must win all their remaining league games by forty clear goals and hope Southampton fall into the sea like that guesthouse in

The point being: is it worth oing up any more? I don't think so. Not to the premier league, anyway. The premier league is a grisly unwel-coming, class-riddled academy where clear-eyed, freshfaced ambitious little teams are made to fag thanklessly for the Head Boys.

"I say, look here, Barnsley you sticky-faced little oiks, if you and smelly old Darbyshire wish to hang around in this dorm, you bloody well better not cause any waves, and hand us three points every time you pass us on the stairs understand? You know how much we love roasting you snivelling little pups and never ruddy forget it, OK? Good. Oh, by the way, we're

sending you down."
That's exactly what it feels like when, through no fault of your own, you suddenly find yourself in the top league. I know - Millwall were in the old first division for a while. Three till four one Wednesday afternoon I think it was. Yes of course, we topped the table for a while. All new teams are allowed to top the table for a while - it's simply an empty piece of FA PR.

was it worth going up?

DANNY BAKER



and wonders what the little guys are doing tickling his nose. And so it begins. Great hulking TV teams coming around your place week after week, thumping the life out of you. Seven months of embarrassed smiles permanently fixed while teams like naked back to the coach. Sheffield Wednesday and Tottenham swank about the pitch like they're used to being in this much control. When we played Aston Villa it was announced at halftime that, as a sporting gesture, from now on Villa

that time you seriously ask: Wasn't the genuine mys-

could only score with volleys

and headers. It is just about

Notes County infinitely preferable to simply being some punch-drunk bunch of rubes at a bad table in soccer's Planet Hollywood? It is not merely a matter of knowing one's place. It is more the solid warmth of being among friends. Stoke supporters may not actually like us - possibly still sulking from the nfamous razor-blades-inhurled-potatoes thing back in the early 70s — but they sure as hell have never patronised us. They regard our meeting as a genuine, bona fide, fixture. But when Barnsley run out at Old Trafford they will be indulged, applauded. bust moralet. given encouragement and generally made to feel like some winner of a competition in Smash Hits who have seen their dream of being backstage with Boyzone come true. They will lose the match a thousand-nil and receive a nice hand as they sprint

Here is what must be allowed to take place with immediate effect. Any team, any point, should be to sell their league position. That's right. Flog your status. Maximise your potential. Sell up. Sell out. If football is a business then let's do a little trading. Look at it this way: you busted your Barnsley chops last year for what? To bring big

football club, not Harvey Goldsmith Come on, be real. You're a lower league side who lucked out so let's parlay this into something lasting. All you've got to do is stick together a couple of results a win at Palace, a draw at Coventry - then sit in Nosebleed City (seventeenth) and simply pick up the phone to Molineux or Maine Road and tell them that, sweet as the air around here is, you are missing the old neighbourhood - wanna swap? £15-20 mill sounds about fair. And here's the beauty part. City will probably rise to the occasion. They will make a better fist of it than you and probably, before long, will be looking at the Evertons and West Hams in their rearview mirror (pedigree can only bloom into true class when not shackled by shame and

Plus you really aren't a bad side. So how tough is it going to be knocking over Peterborough and Norwich again? Result - you don't lose another match, the fans can continue to chant "Champions!", and stap me, you wind up being able to repeat the whole exhibitrating gag next

I can't see a downside to this entire venture. It's bold, it's modern and it's totally honest. The only bellyache I've encountered is from idealistic maniaes who think if this scheme were accepted. then the premier league would simply become a playground for the rich and famous.

As opposed to what we

fields

li got Norta

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34 or

Tale of the tape

I HAVE been sent an audio tape of Steve Archibald falling downstairs. It is about eight seconds long and undoubtedly someone falling downstairs but Steve Archibald? 1 don't know. The faller never cries out so we don't even have a Scottish accent to go

 signed The Big K — insists the tumble took place "sometime in 1984". There is no suggestion that Steve was intoxicated or suffered injuries from the fall. When I played the tape on the radio last week, Steve Archibald's solicitors made no move. This could be football's own

Fast thinking

start charging for advice on how to peo up sports. Most of my friends are bemoaning the trend in Formula One that, if I follow them correctly, means each and every grand prix has become a hopeless, pointless high-speed procession that

and simply must be played out to its predictable conclu-

Well, leaving aside a rather clever joke at the expense of the Royal Variety Show here, I think I have the answer to bring about the thrill of the chase.

Four words: last lap on

Keggy Keegle's cottage industry

IN ONE of my favourite pieces of sports commentating, the superb Brian Moore wondered aloud what "this next 45 minutes" held for "Keggy Keegle ... I'm sorry, Kevin Keegle ... and I've not referred to the Great Tortured Man by anything else since. After far too long an absence — a week and a half — Keggy is back in the game, his keen Keegle eye already on Europe. He will, of course, do it, and nobody

should be in any way surprised at his choice of club. Fulham have long been a they go back to being Not Chelsea once barmy outfit with a tradition of Stage-Door-Johnnyism going back from Tommy Trinder through George Best and Rodney Marsh, the platonic love of Jimmy Hill and right up to Keggy himself. It comes from being across the road to Chelsea, the Kings of Showbiz Football. So, periodically they advertise very large indeed and after an extended

they go back to being Not Chelsea once more. This is as it should be. But what of the Kegmeister? As the poet wrote "How long, O breath, how long ... "?

Well, the universe is not without its cosmic jokes. I hear the news of the Kegman's return but moments after a news item about the opening night of Wilde. starring Stephen Fry. Empires are turned on such fateful omens . . .



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in our view, there are no nicer nibbles to accompany a tipple when you next find yourself in the 19th.

FOOTBALL SATURDAY

Cup fever shifts to downtown Sudbury

BY WALTER GAMMIE

NOT everything that the FA Cup touches turns to gold. Sudbury Town suffered such a letdown from their run last season that they ended by resigning from the Dr Martens League. They dropped into the Jewson Eastern Counties League, taking the place of their own reserve team - now disbanded — alongside Sud-bury Wanderers, their local

rivals. "The reasons were financial," David Webb, the secretary, said after the club went through the throes of forming a new board and shedding the majority of its contracted players. Even though Sudbury beat Brighton in a first-round replay and then lost to Brentford in a "home" match switched to Colchester United's ground, the pickings were not great.

There wasn't as big a gate at Layer Road as we expected," Webb said, "and the stewards, policing and the rest cost us a lot of money." Add the increas-ing number of clubs from the West Country in the Dr Martens League southern division. and inadequate attendances in a small market town, and the decision to end a seven-year spell in the league was easily

Richie Powling, the manager, and the remaining contracted players from last season are now focused on the biggest challenge of their an away match against Wroxham, the champions, tomorrow.

Down the road, meanwhile, Sudbury Wanderers are gripped by a mild dose of the Cup fever that swept the town as they prepare for a home tie in the second qualifying round against Bromsgrove Rovers. Wanderers have already taken the scalp of one former Conference club, beating Stafford Rangers 3-0 at Brundon

Lane.
The irony of Town's plight is that their exploits last season have earned them exemption to the fourth qualifying round. "You could call it a golden handshake." Webb said.

Seamier side of the game

The Forest v Anderlecht affair fits a

sorry pattern in European football

t was at the San Siro in May 1965 that Tommy Smith literally cked the referee off the field. Kicked him, as he still recounts, all the way back to the dressing-room. Not that it was much consolation. Two decisions by Ortiz de Nendibil, the Spanish referee — a goal scored by Internazionale from an indirect free kick, another when Peiro kicked the ball out of the goalkeeper's hands — had enabled Inter to win the second leg of a European Cup semi-final 3-0 after losing 3-l at Anfield.

They had won in much the same way in the equiva-lent semi-final the previous year when Luis Suarez kicked Dortmund's right half and put him off the field, reducing the Germans to ten men. The Yugoslav referee did nothing about it.

In the 1966 semi-final, however, a brave Hungarian referee, Gyorgy Vadas, re-sisted the blandishments of Angelo Moratti, the Inter president. Real Madrid gained a draw to reach the final — and Vadas never got another international

Those of us who spent years beating our heads against a wall, publicising such tales of corruption to no avail are hardly surprised by the news that the papers relating to the Anderlecht vNottingham Forest Uefa Cup semi-final in 1984 "disappeared" after reaching the Uefa offices five years

Anderlecht are known now to have bribed the Spanish referee of that game, Guruceta Muro, who was subsequently killed in a



Left: Guruceta Muro, the referee bribed by Anderlecht in 1984 to allow them to beat Nottingham Forest in the Uefa Cup semi-final, above. Anderlecht may escape suspension car crash. Muro refused

Forest a perfectly good goal headed by Paul Hart, and gave a non-existent penalty against them. Uefa's statute of limitations has a tenyear span and although Uefa have now tried to sus-pend Anderlecht from their tournaments for a year, they may not be able to make it stick. To be fair, Uefa, under

the reign of Lennart Johansson, have been more willing to act than under previous leaders.

couple of seasons ago, indeed, they acted with what seemed almost indecent haste when Dynamo Kiev were accused of offering fur coats to the Spanish referee. Lopez Nieto. In no time at all, kiev,

who cut little international ice, were suitably punished. Their appeal was heard and dismissed in the blink of an eye; though later their suspension was reduced.

Kiev may or may not have been guilty, though their complaints that they had

been castigated because they did not matter made

No such punishment. indeed none at all, visited Juventus when, in a Sunday Times investigation, myself and a colleague showed beyond doubt that the Hungarian fixer, Dezso Solti, who had previously worked for Inter, had gone to Lisbon to offer money to the Portuguese referee, Lobo, to bend the 1973 return European Cup semi-final between Derby County and Juventus.

Lobo reported the attempt. Juventus seemed bang to rights, but a farcical Uefa disciplinary committee meeting in Zurich failed to confront Solti with Lobo, and was followed almost at once by a letter of thanks and exoneration to Juventus from Hans Bangerter, the Uefa secretary. At the centre of such ac-

tivities at Inter, and then Juventus, was the celebrated wheeler-dealer, Italo

When an Italian newspaper once asked him whether he was hurt by my



attack, he replied he was, especially because, when I was ill in Florence, he was among those who had sent money to enable me to stay there. That was in 1954 and I did not stay in Flor-

ence, but went home for an operation on my back. I met Allodi for the first

time in a Belgrade hotel, where he was gambling, in 1973. Four years later, at the Hotel Excelsior in Rome, a few hours before Liverpool won the European Cup final, he approached me. saying: "We've never met, but my name is Italo Allodi."

When taxed with his inventions, he replied in the press that he had sent money through an old friend of mine, an Italian youth coach, who by that time was presumed dead.

Uefa's indulgence of Juve in 1973 and after - our revelations brought no action and Solti was deemed to be acting alone - provided corrupt clubs with a kind of cheat's charter.

In 1983, Inter were at it again. Groningen, of Holland, beat them in a firstleg Uefa Cup match after which the manager, Han Berger, was approached by a Dutch intermediary, the agent Apollonius Konijnenberg. He, according to Berger, offered him £55,000 to see Groningen lose the

In the event, Inter won easily in Bari, where they had

to play their home game, but a Uefa inquiry ensued in which Groningen's president. De Vires, said he himself had been approached in Bari. Berger said that Inter had offered to pay for a new grandstand while he could have the manager-

ship of Pisa or Verona. One of Konijnenberg's most damning conversations with Berger had been overheard by a witness. But in the event, the committee decided there was no proof that Konijnenberg and Inter were connected.

omorrow, if Torino do not beat Genoa in a Serie B game in Turin. Graeme Souness is in danger of losing his job as the Torino manager. Spartaco Landini, the Genoa general manager, is in no danger

The Italy right back when they lost to North Korea in Middlesbrough in the 1966 World Cup, Landini was involved in an opera buffa of a scam 20 years later. Roma had lost to Dundee United away in

the first leg of yet another European cup semi-final. Landini and Giampaolo Cominato. a football administrator, approached the Roma president, Dino Viola. and said that if he gave them £50,000, they could fix the French referee, Michel Vautrot.

The money was handed over but the two never went near the blameless Vautrot. However, when the referee was taken out to dinner by Roma directors, he received a mysterious phone call, actually from Cominato, saying: "Paolo wishes you good luck" — a

pre-arranged message. Dino Viola, however, assumed this was an Italian referee called Paoio Bergamo, to whom in time he blurted out the tale. Bergamo reported it, but under the Italian Federation's statute of limitations, it was too late to proceed. Landini and Cominato were not pros ecuted. Roma escaped merely with a fine by Uefa. Small wonder Ander-

lecht thought they could get away with it. Perhaps they

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When losing is no joke



Pointing the finger: For a time, Wilson refrained from public criticism of his players. Now he can hold back no longer

even weeks ago, Barns-Sey was a town on helium. The football club had secured promotion to the FA Carling Premiership and people sung their joy and eternal loyalty. whether to a television camera, down at the pub or to the person behind them in the queue for a season ticket.

Since then, the team has lost six matches, conceded 21 goals and finds itself in the relegation zone for the first time this season. There are, of course, thousands who remain unflinchingly loyal. but the trickle of discontent has started. "It was pretty dire." John Murphy of Burton Grange, Barnsley, wrote. "We couldn't pass: we didn't know what to do when we had the ball." It gets worse. "Barnsley were a pathetic embarrassment, I felt myself cringing in my seat. What is going on at Oakwell?" Ellie Hambleton, of Darfield.

These comments were among a batch of letters sent to the Barnsley Chronicle after the team's 3-0 home defeat against Aston Villa two weeks ago. At this match, a significant number left ten minutes before the final whistle. Some of these would have been the same people who, back in May, queued for hours to buy a season ticket to ensure that they did

The supporters are beginning to get restless, Mark Hodkinson reports

Presumably. the air of dissatisfaction will have been honed by two further heavy defeats since, Much was made of the response Barnsley's 6-0 drubbing Cheisea month ago.

sang they were hurring. boasting that they were to win 6-5 when they were five goals behind. The reaction was mere bra-

vado, but it was seen, erroneously, as a barometer of loyalty. When your team is losing so heavily, especially at home, a game takes on a surreal quality. It becomes comical in the same way it does when your luggage flies to New Delhi while you land in Rome and the rep announces that there is a meningitis scare at your intended

It is not, however, a matter not miss out on Barnsley's of hilarity when your team in her seat," he said.

gling Villa side especially if they have scored times from eight shots and your team has scored from 13 attempts. These cruel and frustrating defeats are borne reluctantly by the supporter, but with valour; anything else is

loses to a strug-

cowardly. Keith Lodge, the sports editor who has opened the letters of complaint at the

Chronicle, is a seasoned hack, not prone to indignation or shouting. He thinks before he speaks. His response to the grumbling and the early-leavers amounts, then, to a noteworthy reprimand. For supporters to dish out such harsh criticism on the management so soon is every bit as pathetic as the embarrassment felt by the lady who sent us a letter describing how she cringed

mature but it is indicative of a tangible mood-swing within the town. This is mirrored by a degree of change within the club. The side that clinched promotion appears to be disintegrating: in recent games more than half the players used have been signed since the summer. Paul Wilkinson, the striker who formed a 27-goal partnership last season with John Hendrie has left to join Millwall. Clint Marcelle has been linked with the Spanish club. Seville, and several predatory scouts have noted Hendrie's inability to hold down a first-team place.

nother difference has A been Danny Wilson's willingness publicly to criticise his team, notably his defenders. He had previously kept his censure within the dressing-room. This week he called on them in several interviews to "take on responsibility" and improve their all-round play.

A team in flux, impatient supporters, a manager lambasting his players: Barnsley would seem to be a club bleeding hope and dreams. Everyone knows, though, that a couple of wins, preferably in succession, will have them dancing in the streets once more, such is the fickle nature of the football

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FOOTBALL SATURDAY

Karlheinz Riedle's professionalism has earned instant respect from team-mates and management at Liverpool



easy bunch to impress. There is an irreverent, impish streak running through the younger ones. in particular, an individuality, a clastic attitude that can offend those who are used to the studied blandness of men such as Alan Shearer. They do not give their respect easily, but they have given it to Karlheinz Riedle.

He went with them to Chester races earlier this week on a club day out. Sometimes, when a group of players go out for a meal locally, he goes as well. He joins in: that is part of the reason why they like him, part of the reason they never really warmed to the more aloof Stan Collymore. With Riedle, though, there is another reason, too.

There was instant respect for Karl among the rest of the players as soon as he arrived here." Steve McManaman said. "He has won everything there is to win in the game but the point is that we are not talking about something he did five or ten years ago, something way back in time.

When he came to Liverpool, he had just scored two goals against Juventus, the best club side in the world, to win the European Cup for Borussia Dortmund, Three months later and there he was playing for us at Wimbledon. The respect for him here is second to none because of what he has achieved in his career."

It does not end there, either. Riedle has enough respect to riddle Linford Christie with envy. "He is the best professional I have ever worked with," Roy Evans, the Liverpool manager, said after the 3-0 victory over Aston Villa on Monday. And Evans has worked with a few good professionals in his time.

Riedle is a sober character, earnest and amicable, courteous to a fault, a model

mpo

footballer indeed. He is fluent in several languages, including English, but until recently he has asked for a translator to be present at interviews lest he be misinterpreted. He does not court controversy or attention. His words exude diplomacy.

His character is less flamboyant than that of Jürgen Klinsmann, the only other high-profile German to have played in the Premiership, but, in a quieter way, he is likely to be just as effective an ambassador for his country's footballing

He has already gained a reputation on Mersey-side for being sensible.

He shied away from living in Southport, the favoured residence of Liverpool and Everton footballers, because he was worried that the funfair would distract his sons, Alessandro, six, and Dominic, four, from their schoolwork.

"I know my boys," Riedle said. "When you have a playground like this in Southport, they would want to go every day. It might distract them a little bit. It is not too important but I thought it would



somewhere else." Next week, he and the boys and his wife, Gaby, are due to move into a house "over the water" on The It is already clear that Evans got one of the best

be better if we moved

bargains of the summer when he paid Dortmund £1.8 million for the man who scored two classic headers in the 3-1 European Cup final defeat of Juventus in Munich in May. Even though Riedle's

international career appears to have come to an end, nobody could quite believe he was leaving the European champions for Anfield and when his signing was con-

firmed, the cynics said he just wanted one

last payday.

The three goals he has scored already, though, have all been minor classics. The first, after a fine turn had embarrassed a defender, was a delicate chip over Nigel Martyn in the victory at Leeds United, the second a bullet header that Paul Jones could only push into the roof of the net against Southampton at The Dell last Saturday, the third a clinical finish



Riedle during his Liverpool debut

against Villa that hurtled through the legs of Mark Bosnich.

More than that, it is obvious that his style of play, his ability to hold the ball up and let others feed off him, his famous prowess in the air, can only complement the quicksilver skills of Robbie Fowler and Michael Owen whenever they play alongside him.

At the moment, the two young players are even threatening to keep him out of

the side but Riedle, who celebrated his 32nd birthday last week, is the antithesis of the temperamental foreign import. Speak to him for five minutes and it is clear he is not the sort of man who could play out his career at half-pace, thinking just of the money. When he talks about a duty to the team, he means it.

"It is not my problem about what the manager does when Robbie is fully fit and Michael and I want the other place," Riedle said. "We have so many good players at the club and it is not a concern for me if I have to go on the bench. Of course, when you do not play, you do not feel good, but the important thing is to work for the team.

When I came here, the manager said he wanted me to play a little bit behind the first forward. I like this position and it is important to create the space and the chances for other people to score. Who scores is not so important to me any more.

Scoring is nice but I feel the same when I create a goal now. Playing for the team is more important than my own glory now. I knew all about Robbie before I came to Liverpool but I have to admit I was not aware of Michael. I am aware of him now. He is a fantastic young player. I admire both of them.
"People wonder why I left Dortmund

but we were at the point where we had won two domestic championships in succession in Germany and then the European Cup as well and it was the right

time for me to change. Last year was probably the happiest year of my career you have won a lot of things with one team, sometimes it is better to have another challenge so you can create new things."

Riedle began his career with the Bundesliga club, Augsburg, before he moved on to Blau-Weiss Berlin, Werder Bremen and then Lazio, where he was a contemporary of Paul Gascoigne and played in attack with Thomas Doll. He scored 17 goals in 45 internationals for Germany and was part of the squad that won the 1990 World Cup in Italy. When he eft Lazio, he joined Dortmund.

e had long cherished an ambition to play in the Premiership with one of the leading clubs, though, and when the opportunity to play for Liver-pool arose, he jumped at it. Off the field, he is already revelling in the quieter life that he is allowed to lead.

"It was impossible to live like a normal person in Italy or in Germany," he said.
"Since I have been living here, I have even been able to go shopping to the superstore with my wife. That is the first time I have been able to do that. The people here are so friendly. They are much more open than anywhere else I have lived.

People ask why I did not go to London where the restaurants and the theatres are. But I did not come here for restaurants and theatres. I want to play good football at a high level. I think Liverpool will be my last club. After that, maybe I will play for a joke somewhere else but when I leave here, I will be finished with playing football."

Perhaps then he will have time for Southport and its funfair.

Fulham bask in limelight

By RUSSELL KEMPSON

FULHAM'S training headquarters at the BBC Sports Ground in Motspur Park, deep in suburban Surrey. rarely attracts much attention. Perhaps a few retired householders might peer from their back gardens, as the Fulham players practise, but there is little of significant interest. Not any more. After the

appointment of Kevin Keegan and Ray Wilkins on Thursday, to lead Fulham into the promised land of the FA Carling Premiership, nothing is as it was at the Nationwide League second division club. Motspur Park was alive yesterday with representatives of the media. all wanting an audience with the saviours of Craven Cottage and long is it likely to

As the players tried to prepare for their game away to Wigan Athletic this afternoon. Simon Morgan, the Fulham captain, admitted that it had been a week of distraction. "To be truthful, it's been a crazy whirl, but we are typical



closed the dressing-room door and had a good laugh and enioved some banter. There is a great opportunity for us here to impress and go forward with the new management. Our future is in our hands."

Keegan, the bizarrely named chief operating officer, will initially assist with coaching as he assesses his players. Wilkins, the manager, will pick the team. "My first impression has been of the enthusiasm shown in training by everyone," Keegan, whose newly inherited side has lost its past four league and cup

No such happy times at Huddersfield Town, who are without a league victory this

place in the first division. Disenchanted supporters have been calling for the head of Brian Horton, the manager, and may well repeat their requests if Huddersfield do not improve against Wolver-hampton Wanderers at Molineux today.

There's no way I'm walking away from this club," Horton said. "I'm working very hard to put things right and I care very much about the club. I had a reputation of being a battler as a player and that's exactly what I am as a manager. There's no way I'm going to let my head drop."

Billy Bonds, the Millwall manager, continued his recent spending spree yesterday by signing Nigel Spink, the goaleper, from West Bromwich Albion for £50,000. Spink, 39, who played in

Aston Villa's European Cup final victory against Bayern Munich in 1982, is Bonds's third signing after the arrival of the strikers, Paul Shaw and Paul Wilkinson, from Arsenal and Barnsley respectively, for season and languish in last a combined £400,000.

Injury rules out Ripley for England

STUART RIPLEY will not recover from injury in time to make the England squad for the World Cup qualifying match in Italy. At the start of the week, Roy Hodgson, the Blackburn manager, offered to hurry the winger back after his pulled hamstring if Glenn Hoddle, the England coach, wanted him for the game in Rome on October 11.

But yesterday Hodgson said that Ripley will not play until next Saturday against Wimbledon at the earliest. which is too late for an England call-up.

Andy Impey, 21, is in line to make his debut for West Ham United against Liverpool at Upton Park today after his transfer for £1.2 million from Queens Park Rangers.

Arsène Wenger, the Arsenal manager, yesterday denied reports that Arsenal have made a bid for Jason McAteer, the unsettled Liverpool midfield player.

Rangers wear heavy disguise

THOSE with their eyes fixed

only on results may believe that they have witnessed Scottish football sticking fast to its traditional ways. On Wednesday, Rangers won 3-0 at Kilmarnock to assume their familiar leadership of the Bell's Scottish League premier division.

Facts, however, can be flimsy. The league table might still resemble an icebound land-scape, unable to change and never to permit fresh growth, but the mood of the game is far from desolate. Despite superficial appearances, the season has not corresponded to the dreary predictions and Rangers, to their distress, have proved that their success is never a matter of destiny.

Reaching the top of the premier division will not be enough to mollify their aggrieved supporters. In the summer, after the outlay of £14 million on eight new players, the public and the pundits were united in trumpeting the might and depth of the Rangers squad. Only their opponents failed to swoon.

Some signings are injured, others seem bland and Rangers have been removed from the European Cup by IFK Gothenburg, from the Coca-Cola Cup by Dundee United. and lag 2-1 to a humdrum Strasbourg team after the first leg of their Uefa Cup tie. Rangers have hardly troubled to conceal the fact that they are flustered.

It may have hurt their pride re-sign Richard Gough, who is expected to return from Kansas City Wizards next month, but this slice of humble pie may be nutritious. The centre half is 35, yet Rangers have still to demonstrate that they can find successors for such Scots, whose resolve underwrote success at ibrox over many years.

Celtic, too, have proved surprising, although in their case the shock comes from a failure to live down to expectations. Wim Jansen, their Dutch coach, was a formidable player, but he lacks the patina of celebrity that would

have ensured respect. His to have been thoughtfully appointment, in the summer, was met with disdain. Defeats by Hibernian and Dunfermline Athletic, in Celtic's opening league matches, added to the forlorn impression, but the club has not been beaten by any other Scottish club since then and, in last weekend's 2-0 win over Aberdeen, the tactical solidity of Jansen's side

difficulty of retaining the form they have discovered. Today, they are at Dundee United and even if Tommy McLean's team are without a victory in the League, Celtic will be mindful of their feat in removing Rangers from the Coca-Cola Cup. Rangers themselves, at home to Motherwell, may once more be able to further their interests in a season that has so far brought

only denigration. For Aberdeen, catcalls have almost become a soundtrack. They are bottom of the table and the mortification is made all the more intense by perplexity. A squad that seemed

reconstructed in the close season should amass a sturdy record and take up a respectable position in the league.

Instead, they are last and the match at home today. against Dunfermline, does not guarantee revival. So far, the premier division has been a disconcerting affair with Hi-bernian, at home to St was as striking as its elan. Johnstone today, and Heart of Now, of course, Celtic face the Midlothian, who are at Kilmarnock, engaged in a joint exercise to restore dignity to football in Edinburgh.

☐ Scotland's first, second and third division clubs have been promised a share of around filmillion a season if the proposed Premiership league becomes a reality. Lex Gold, chairman of Hibernian and spokesman for the premier division clubs, yesterday outlined the criteria and principles of the proposed new league and revealed that £985,000 would be given to the 30 clubs outside the top flight - a sum similar to that which they receive at present from

the Scottish League.

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FOOTBALL SATURDAY



CHELSEA

NEWCASTLE UNITED Today, 3.0 (sold out)



Oliver Holt Gianfranco Zola. Chelsea's Italian forward, admitted yesterday that his team must beat Newcastle United at

Stamford Bridge today to maintain their status as genuine challengers for the FA Carling Premiership title. This is the third of four games

for Chelsea against other leading contenders and they need the psychological boost of a win against Kenny Dalglish's team after the loss to Arsenal last Sunday and the bruising draw with Manchester United in midweek.

Newcastle, still inspired by their Champions' League victory over Barcelona ten days ago and with Faustino Asprilla in his best form since he arrived at St James' Park, would go to the top of the Premiership if they won their games in hand.

After a quiet start, though, Zola is showing signs of returning to the form that made him player of the year last season. and yesterday, at the club's training ground, he did not try to dodge the importance of this

Tomorrow is a very, very important game for us," he said. We are playing against a team

that is one of the candidates for the championship and we need to 1 be a big step forward against them. We need to consolidate all the work we have

"Last vear, we were a team that had good skills but did not believe too much in themselves. This year, we have bought six or seven more good players and we have got that belief in ourselves. I have not played at the same level as last year yet. I am quite happy, but I am not completely satisfied. Soon, I will be back to where I was."

Chelsea will still be without the injured Michael Duberry. but Frank Sinclair returns after a three-match ban and Danny Granville is also added to the squad that travelled to Old Trafford. Once more, Ruud Gullii, the player-manager, gave no clues as to which strike force he would use, but Chelsea should just have the edge whoever he selects.

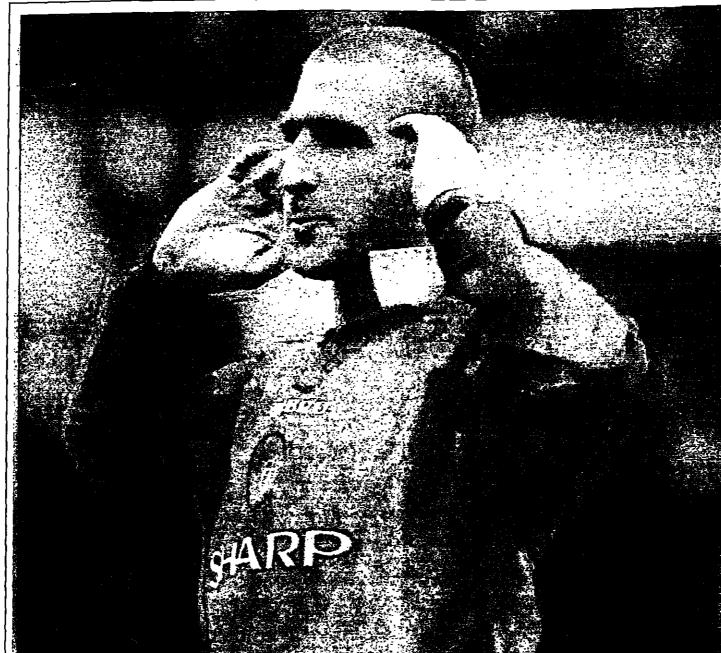
Even with their game against Dinamo Kiev next Wednesday in mind, there is no such uncertainty in the Newcastle camp. Asprilla will lead the line, probably aided by Keith Gillespie and Jon Dahl Tomasson. "Tino was a team-mate of mine at Parma," Zola said, "He did some unbelievable things while he was there, things that only he can do. but he was not consistent. Now he seems to have that as

CHELSEA (3-5-2)* E de Goey --- F Sincleir, F Leboeul, A Myers --- D Petrescu, G Poyel, R Di Matteo, D Wise, G Le Saux --- M Hughes, G

cota. NEWCASTLE UNITED (3-5-1-1); S Given — S Watson, D Peacock, P Albert — V. Gillespie, R Lee. D Batty, J Barnes, A Pistone — J D Tornasson — F Asprila.

■ TELEVISION: Today: Match of the Day, BBC1 10.50pm, extended highlights.

■ PREDICTION: Chelsea to win



Many happy returns, Eric Cantona waits in vain for appreciative applause after scoring in the 40 romp at Elland Road last year

WITH FRIENDS LIKE THESE Manchester United can be sure of a cheery welcome from admiring Leeds United fans at Elland Road today. Here are 11 other teams who just don't get

1. Liverpool and Manchester United . .they don't like Man U either

2. Brighton and Crystal Palace Brighton lans are naturally envious of residents of Croydon

3. Barcelona and Real Machid The Catalans don't like Real ... or anything else about Madrid for that

4. Chelses and Leeds United You may think the 1970 FA Cup Final is old naws, but these two?

5. England and Germany 1966, 1970, 1990, 1996 . . . and a lew other earlier fall-outs

6. Anderlecht and Nottingham Forest Can't think what this is about

7. Reading, Oxford and Swindon The battle for control of the "Didcot Triangle" is fierce

8. Ajax and Feyenoord Amsterdam v Rotterdam — do you give

9. Portsmouth and Plymouth Argyle Too much time contemplating their

10. Aberdeen and Rangers The Dons hate Rangers more than Celtic do

11. El Salvador and Honduras El Salvador pipped their neighbours for a place in the 1970 World Cup, so they

Compiled by Richard Whitehead



instead of Neale Barry, a planner from Scunthorpe, having been ap-pointed to take charge of affairs at Villa Park this afternoon,

perhaps a psychologist would have been better suited. He could then delve into the innermost thoughts of Stan Collymore, the Aston Villa striker, to discover exactly what is wrong with the sullen superstar. Maybe he could also explain why Benito Carbone and David Hirst, the Sheffield Wednesday team-mates, almost came to blows during the 5-2 defeat against Derby County in

Dr Know could also judge the





ASTON VILLA SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY Today, 3.0

well-being of Bruce Grobbelaar if, as expected, he makes his debut after signing a three-month contract for Wednesday. Is Grobbelaar mentally fit to stand behind a kamikaze defence so soon after enduring such a lengthy court case? Or is he

ideally qualified by virtue of always having been a goal kick short of the 90 minutes?

Mind games play a significant role in many matches and Villa, despite the 3-0 loss against Liverpool on Monday, should prove more capable of bouncing back from adversity. The omnipresent optimism of David Pleat, the Wednesday manager, is waning.

ASTON VILLA (probable; 3-5-2): M Bosnich — U Bhogu, S Staunton, G Southgete — F Nelson, 1 Taylor, M Draper, S Curcic, A Wright — S Collymore, D Yorke, SHEFRIELD WEDNESDAY (possible; 4-3-1-2): B Grobbelaar — P Blondeau, S Nicol, D Walter, I Nolan — G Whatingham, J Magilton, M Perribridge — N Clough — B Carbone, P Di Carbo Referee: N Barry.

TELEVISION: Today: Match of the Day, goal highlights. PREDICTION: More we for Wednesday.

There is no right or wrong.

good or bad time to play anybody.

David Maddock

Perhaps Manchester United could draft Jacques Delors into their the absence of a certain French figure for the support-

ers of Leeds United to focus on in their enduring loathing of Manchester United. It won't seem the same

LEEDS UNITED

MANCHESTER UNITED

Today, 3.0 (sold out)

ble choirboy.

Hopkin is fit to oppose Keane and it is here that the match will be decided. Expect fireworks - Hopkin has ginger hair. Keane should have. Leeds are about as consis-

tent as Liberal Democrat feelings on a pact with Labour. The win at Southampton on Wednesday was the third on their travels, but they have yet to win at home this season and George Graham, the manager, admits he is baffled by such a contradiction in form. Ferguson has almost a full squad to choose from and the time has surely come to put Andy Cole out of his misery by restoring Ole Gunnar Solskjaer to the starting line-up. with Teddy Sheringham also likely to be given a run before

Last season, a resounding 4-0 victory at Elland Road for Manchester United resulted sacked. With the parsimonirepeat is unlikely.

TELEVISION: Today: Match

of the Day, goal highlights. PREDICTION: Manchester United's third draw in a week

ON MONDAY

weekend match reports



Hodkinson Things are looking good for Arsenal and Den-Bergkamp. nis The team sit on

top of the FA Carling Premiership on goal difference and Bergkamp is in magnifi-

cent form. Dr Peter O'Donoghue, of the University of Ulster, has devised a computerised system that shows that Bergkamp has more byte than any other striker in the Premiership. In a recent game he performed high-intensity activity" during 13.43 per cent of the match. His nearest rival, Gianfranco Zola, of Chelsea, mustered

One constant statistic is



Today, 3.0 Arsenal's disciplinary record. Four players - Wright, Vieira, Bould and Bergkamp - have incurred two or more yellow

ARSENAL

cards each and only Crystal Palace have a worse record. Everton are still unsettled and

uninspiring with only vague evi-

Speke From The Harbour, revealed that one in four supporters thought the highlight of last season was the sacking of Joe Royle, their former manager. Howard Kendall, take note. Dixon and Winterburn were injured in midweek, but are

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dence of a team taking shape. A

survey by the club's fanzine,

expected to play. Everton have no new injury problems.

EVERTON (probable; 4-3-1-2): P Gerrard — E Barrett, S Blinc, D Watson, A Hinchcliffe — G Stuart, G Speed, A Grant — N Barmby — D Ferguson, D Cadamarten.
ARSENAL (probable; 4-4-2): D Seeman — L Duon, S Bould, A Adams, N Winterbum — R Parlour, P Viera, E Petit, M Overmers — D Bergkamp, I Witght.
Referee: A Wildop

■ TELEVISION: Today: Match of the Day, goal highlights.

PREDICTION: Arsenal to win by a single goal.

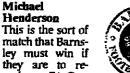


match that Barnsley must win if they are to remain an FA Carling Premiership

club. They are not expected to beat the likes of Manchester United and Liverpool. In fact, they can trade in those points right now. But, if they fail to beat teams

such as Leicester City, who are goodish but not sufficiently accomplished to be intimidating. they will return to the Nationwide League first division PDQ. Barnsley lost at Wimbledon the

other night after turning round a goal to the good and cannot afford to spurn such opportuni-





BARNSLEY LEICESTER CITY Today, 3.0 (sold out)

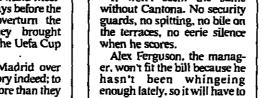
ries. They were promoted onmerit, having won a reputation for playing good football, but those memories will not sustain them in a league which may lack distinction but which, nevertheless, punishes those who fall

but Barnsley will not mind meeting Leicester a few days before the Foxes attempt to overturn the one-goal deficit they brought back from Spain in the Uefa Cup two weeks ago.

To beat Atlético Madrid over two legs would be glory indeed; to win at Oakwell no more than they would expect.

BARNSLEY (possible, 4-4-2): D Watson — M Appleby, A Mosas, A de Jeeuw, A Krozan — M Rodfeam, E Trikler, D Shendan, M Bullock — A Uddelf, D Barnard, LEICESTER CITY (probable 3-5-2): h Keller — S Pror, M Eliott. i Marshall — P Kaomerk, N Lennon, G Parker, M Izzer, S Guppy — G Fertion, E Heckey Referee; G Poli

■ TELEVISION: Today: Match of the Day, goal highlights. ■ PREDICTION: Leicester to win



be Roy Keane. The Ireland midfield player was booked during an illtempered match against Chelsea in midweek, only a day after Ferguson claimed that his captain had turned over a new leaf and become a verita-

It should be some contest if

in Howard Wilkinson being ous Graham in charge, a

MANCHESTER UNITED (probable, 4-4-).

1) P Schmedrei — D Imm H Berg, G
Palletter, P Nextie — D Beckham, R Keene
N Butt, R Gegs — E Sheringham, O G

Brilliant insights or hopeless guesses? Check our writers' predictions against their



TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR WIMBLEDON Today, 3.0

the potency that has been sorely missing with just one goal in their past four Premiership games. They take on a Wimbledon side that is equally fitful. A truly woeful first-half performance in

midweek against Barnsley was

followed by a four-goal romp in

the second. Marcus Gayle could return to bolster their forward line and Michael Hughes should make his debut after his £1.6 million transfer from West Ham United. This fixture has a habit of throwing up controversy and it

enough to give Spurs victory and put their flirtation with Fabrizio Ravanelli behind them.

could be a physical confrontation.

Ferdinand's return should prove

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (probable: 4-4-2): I Walter — S Carr, S Campbell, G Mabbun, C Wilson — D Ganola, C Calderwood, S Clemence, J Domrejuez — C Armanon, L Ferdinand WIMBLEDON (probable: 4-4-2): N Sullvan — I. Currangham, C Perry, D Blackwell, A Kimble — C Hughes, R Earle, V Jones, M Hughes — E Ekoku, M Gayle.

Referee: P Durkon TELEVISION: Match of the Day,

goal highlights.

PREDICTION: Spurs to win 2-1.

But at Highbury, the left-footed

Unsworth spent much of his time

on the flank, while Pearce was

badly outpaced by Bergkamp for

Arsenal's first goal. The good news is that Andy Impey, the

former Queens Park Rangers

player, will make his debut and

Liverpool are expected to wel-

come back Paul Ince, well though

Danny Murphy and James

Coventry have no such worries

given the lack of English talent in

Carragher played against Villa.

Eval Berkovic should be fit.



Keith Pike Barnsley play the most attractive football. Bolton Wanderers have the best stadium. but of the three FA Carling Prem-

iership newcomers, Crystal Palace have made the most encouraging start. If only they could reproduce their away form (PS W3, D1) at Seihurst Park (P3, L3).

Before packing his bags for

Craven Cottage, Ray Wilkins, the

departing Palace coach, acknowl-

edged the team's lack of star

quality — and dismissed its

relevance. "They are a group of 20

lads who really give everything for each other," he said. "With

that, you have half a chance."

That said, Palace will be desper-

Peter Robinson



CRYSTAL PALACE **BOLTON WANDERERS** Today, 3.0

are for Attilio Lombardo, their one genuine high-quality performer - and their leading goalscorer - to recover from a thigh strain to face Bolton today.

Bolton's lack of firepower prompted Colin Todd to visit the Continent this week in search of a

striker, the partnership of McGinlay and Blake, which plundered 43 league goals last season, having managed just three so far this term. Returning empty-handed, Todd then dismissed speculation that McGinlay was on his way to Stockport County and that he had made a 12 million bid for Steve Howey. the Newcastle United defender McGinlay, Taggart, Sellars and

CRYSTAL PALACE (possible 3-5-0) R Maior — A Lingham M Edition M H increasion — k Munch A Lombardo A Roberto - Fillanton D Gordon — B Dyer, 7-Momma BOLTON WANDERERS - possible 44-2) k Francian — G Bongston M For G Tagget M Wandow — J Politick P Translation, A Promotion, 5 Sollar — N Based P Search by Refered D Figure.

Thompson face fitness tests.

■ TELEVISION: Today: Match of the Day, goal highlights

PREDICTION: Palace — just.

his European debut on Wednesday

LEEDS UNITED (probable, 44-2) N Martin — Girtate, Dividential, Rimdoreast, Direction — Girtate, All Heatend, D Hopkin, B. Riberto — R. Walkice, J.F. Hassetbart,

ing career.
"I was very down because it was an injury that took so long and there are times when you lear the worst, But I came through it and I'm ready now," he said.



entry City tomorrow. It was in this fixture a year **BLACKBURN ROVERS** ago that he suffered a knee ligament injury that, at one stage, he feared would end his blossom-

> interests of his country. "I don't want to risk him really. but I will speak to Glenn Hoddle

Stuart Ripley may also make a surprise return, if only in the

Tomorrow, 4.0

Strachan is hugely impressed.

BLACKBURIN ROVERS (probable, 4-4-2) T Flowers — P Valery, S Herichez, C Hendry, J Korna — K Gallacher, T Strawood, G Flitcroft, J Wilcox — C Satton, M Dahlin COVENTRY CITY (probable; 4-4-2) S Ograpute — R Nisson, R Shaw, P Williams, D Burrows — P Toller, G McAlister, M Hall, S Shilton — D Huckerty, D Dubles

TELEVISION: Tomorrow: Live on Sky Sports 3, 4.0.

Talk about fickle. Half-time comes and David Jones strolls along the touchline with warm applause ringing in his ears; 45 minutes of dull football later, he makes the same trip to a

chorus of boos. So it was at The Dell on Wednesday, when Southampton lost 2-0 to Leeds United. Fickle fans, managers hate 'em. Good job Carlton Palmer is coming to the rescue, then. You may laugh, but Jones, the Southampton manager, believes Palmer is the man for the job -

and he may be right. The former

England player will add experi-

ence and nous to a team that, on



DERBY COUNTY SOUTHAMPTON Today, 3.0

clearly needs it. They need to win today, too, or the "R" word relegation — will be whispered. Palmer, a El million signing from Leeds, will play, although whether in defence or midfield

remains to be seen. He, or

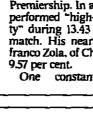
the evidence of the season so far. Dryden, will replace Monkou,

who has pulled a groin muscle. Up front, Jones may gamble on the fitness of Ostenstad (ankle). and Le Tissier (hamstring). Evans, now an Irishman after a chat with Mick McCarthy, the Ireland manager, will step down. And Derby County? The saying

so, after thumping Sheffield Wednesday 5-2 at Hillsborough, changes are unlikely. DERBY COUNTY (probable 3-4-1-2) MilPoort
— I Laurier | Samp, C Bally — G Power S
Erano, L Carley, C Power — F Balano — P
Wanchape, D Button SOUTHAMPTON (possible 43.1-2: Plones — J Dodd, C Paimer C Lundenam, F Benat — M Cokley, K Remaction, A Nation — M Le Tissier — E Ostanstad K Daves

goes: "If it ain't broke, don't fix it,"

■ TELEVISION; Today: Match of the Day, extended highlights ■ PRÉDICTION: Hard-fought



Matt Dickinson Things must be worse for Tottenham Hotsnur than anybody imagined if Gerry

Francis, the manager, feels the need to try to sign Italians with dubious reputations for promoting dressing-room harmony. Yet Tottenham's acute striking problems could ease substantially today if Les Ferdinand is deemed fit enough after a stomach strain to line up alongside the newly returned Chris Armstrong, who is expected to make his first FA

December. With Ginola and Dominguez supplying that pacy and powerful pair. Spurs may finally discover

could be in for another hiding.

Liverpool, who beat Aston Villa

last Monday, rejoice in an abun-

dance of talent up front. Which

one to leave out: Michael Owen.

Robbie Fowler or Karlheinz

Owen is one of the most

remarkable talents to emerge in

English football for years, more

precocious even than Fowler. At 17, he has the poise and confi-

dence of an experienced profes-

sional - and exceptional speed.

If West Ham want to contain

David Maddock

Chris Coleman is

fit again, but he

for wanting to

avoid the tele-

vised visit of Cov-

ould be forgiven

Whatever his reservations,

Coleman may be forced to take

some part in the match because

Stefan Henchoz picked up an

injury in midweek.

Riedle?

Brian Glanville

Unless West Ham United can

improve on their

wretched defen-

sive performance

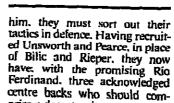
against Arsenal

in midweek, they

Carling Premiership start since



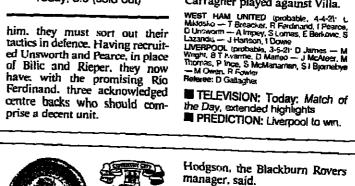




WEST HAM UNITED

LIVERPOOL

Today, 3.0 (sold out)



COVENTRY CITY

and if he wants Stuart for the game in Italy then we will consider playing him, Roy

their squad, but they may have unearthed one for the future. The name is familiar — Shilton and, yes, Sam is the son of Peter, but he is not a goalkeeper. He plays in midfield and Gordon

PREDICTION: Resounding Rovers win, Handry first scorer at

ate you I SED

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SPORT

FOOTBALL SATURDAY

Answering the call to lead from front on a night to remember

or the first time in my the city and supports the club and Liverpool career, I was made they see you wearing that captain of the team on Monday night. It was a proud moment for me to lead the lads out

PTEMBER 27 1997

FEIENDS LIKE THESE

It might be asked, why? It is true that, in many ways, a captain in football is not as important as in other sports, but it is not just an honorary role, either. I was captain against Aston Villa because Paul Ince and Mark Wright were injured and, surprisingly enough, I was one of the most experienced players left standing.

It was a strange feeling to realise that I had officially become an experienced player, whereas in the past I have always been a young player with promise.

It is an important thing, to a Liverpool lad, to be captain of the team from his city of birth, even more so when your family is from atmosphere. Michael Owen has

they see you wearing that armband. How many young kids from Liverpool have dreamt of doing that?

it is an important role, not because the captain can directly determine the outcome of game, but because you can be an impor-tant influence. There are captains I can recall, such as Tony Adams. who was captain on occasions when I played for England, who had tremendous inspirational qualities and would lead by example on the pitch. I suppose it is about taking responsibility. We have plenty of players in our side who do that, but my role against

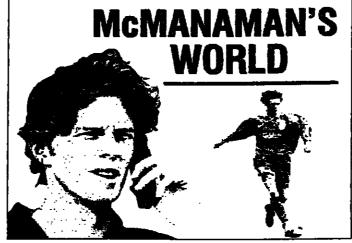
Villa was quite clear. We had a young side out and I just had to help to keep them calm, try to stop them getting nervous and becoming intimidated by the

young players, such as Jamie Carragher, Danny Murphy and David Thompson, the substitute, were really pitched in at the deep

I can't make any great claims about my role as captain, apart from that I just talked to the lads. But then so did the other experienced players. Michael Thomas was helping me by pointing things out on the pitch and just keeping us going.

captain, it was to win the toss and kick towards the Kop in the second half, the first time we had done so this season. In fact, I have got a 100 per cent record as Liverpool captain, which can't be bad.

I was pleased with the way that we played, mostly because the young players did so well. It was difficult for them because we were



playing a good team and many people thought we would be turned over. The young lads have probably never felt an atmosphere like that, where there is so much expectation on them to do well, even though the odds are stacked

against them. We came through it, though, and played very well. We moved the ball quickly and, for perhaps the first time this season, looked really comfortable when we went forward at pace. I enjoyed the responsibility and the experience, but I don't think I will be keeping

Ronnie Moran, our coach, came up to me a couple of minutes before the kick-off, handed me the armband and said: "You'd better put that on." The lads gave me a of ribbing by calling me

People have suggested that it improved my game, but I don't think so. I was pleased with my performance, but I hardly needed any greater motivation.

"skipper" but that was about it.

I have been in the spotlight quite regularly lately and I know some people will be thinking that I have scored goals and turned on performances because I want to prove

my critics wrong. It just does not work like that. In every game you try your best, but you can have a good game, miss a sitter and think you have not played well. On the other hand, you can have a stinker but score a goal and then you are the centre of attention and people believe that you must

have made a decent contribution At least the victory over Villa showed that we have not got too many problems at Liverpool. It is just a question of fitting all the pieces together after the manager made quite a few summer

■ On song for Europe I think that I have had about 1,000 requests for tickets for the Uefa Cup match against Celtic at Anfield next week. I don't know how I am going to get all those tickets, but I am looking forward to the game, anyway. Even if Liverpool did not play particularly well in the first leg in Glasgow, it was still a great match to be involved in.

The atmosphere was absolutely tremendous and I hope that it will be like that at Anfield, although I also hope that the game does not work out the same.

We did score two decent away goals, though, which have given us a slight initiative that we must build on at Anfield next Tuesday

■ Welcome back, Kevin I was extremely interested to see

that Kevin Keegan is to return to the game with Fulham. It is good to see him back so quickly because, no matter what anyone thinks of him, he clearly loves football and he obviously has a lot to offer.
It is an exciting event, especially

if you are a Fulham fan, because he is a massive name who has great charisma. I think that Keegan has a love affair with football. He obviously had problems at Newcastle United, in the sense that the pressure was so intense, and he said that it got too much for him. I can understand that. At Newcastle there is a massive expectation to win things, and to live that as the manager 24 hours a day would get to anyone. Many people thought that he would never return to a job in football.

At Fulham, it seems that Ray Wilkins will be the manager and Keegan will step back from the day-to-day operation and concentrate on a wider role, which could explain why he has come back so quickly. This must be such an exciting time to be a Fulham fan because, with the money of Mr Al Fayed behind them and a management team such as Keegan and Wilkins, they are surely destined for greater things.

STEVE McManaman

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

(Last week's position in brackets) OF THE 1. ARSENAL (4) 8 18 +12 2 3 0 -10 0 10 7 5-3-0 2. MANCHESTER UTD (1) 18 8 +9 3 1 0 3 2 2 0 0 5-3-0 **D2** 2 3. BLACKBURN ROVERS (2) 15 +10 1 1 12 2 2 0 4-3-1 **D2** 4. LEICESTER CITY (5) 15 +5 3 0 2 4-3-1 **D1** 7 5. CHELSEA (3) 13 +11 0 3 1 15 5 4-1-2 **D1** 7 12 2 0 6 3 0 3 W₁ 6. LIVERPOOL (7) 1 1 3 3-3-1 7. NEWCASTLE UTD (12) 12 3 0 5 0 0 W2 5 +2 1 0 4-0-1 8 3 W1 8. LEEDS UTD (9) 10 -1 0 3 0 9 3-1-4 3-1-4 **D1** 8 3 1 9. CRYSTAL PALACE (14) 10 -2 0 0 3 -6 6 5 8 -3 1 5 10 10 1 10. WEST HAM UTD (6) 8 2 0 0 2 0 5 **D**2 10 -3. 11. COVENTRY CITY (8) 3 1 0 6 6 3-0-3 12. DERBY COUNTY (11) +3 0 0 D2 4 2-3-3 8 9 0 13. TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (10) 2 0 5 8 L1 8 9 -5 0 1 3-0-5 **14. ASTON VILLA (13)** 7 W۱ 2 6 0 4 8 0 1 2 6 ा 2-2-3 15. WIMBLEDON (16) 2 7 0 2 L1 7 2 0 7 1 -3 1 **16. EVERTON (18)** D2 2 7 8 7 O 3 0 1 1 5 1-4-2 -3 17. BOLTON WANDERERS (17) 3 12 0 3 4 9 2-0-5 L4 6 -14 0 3 1 18. BARNSLEY (15) 8 1 3 D 12 1-2-5 8 -11 2 5 19. SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (19) 5 1 0 0 3 6 1-1-6 20. SOUTHAMPTON (20) -8

2.50 2. Arsenal 2,37 4. Derby 10 1.67 1.57 5. Liverpool 6. Manchester Utd 12 1.50 1.43 7. Wimbledon 1.37 8. Leicester 9. Tottenham 1.25 10. Leeds West Ham 1.25 1.20 1.14 1.14 =. Crystal Palace 1.14 Everton 1.12 16. Sheffield Wed 17. Coventry Aston Villa 1.00 20. Southampto SCC Bergkamp (Arse Sutton (Blackbur Wright (Arsenal) Gallacher (Black Carbone (Sheff Wallace (Leeds) Dublin (Coventr Hartson (West Vialli (Chelsea)

ATTACK

1. Chelsea

19. Bolton	6	0.86	19. Sheffield Wed	20	2.5
20. Southampton	5	0.62	20. Barnsley	21	2.6
SCORER	S		SCORING T	RENE	S
		Goals	Goals per half	1st	<u>2</u> n
Bergkamp (Arsenal) Sutton (Blackburn) Wright (Arsenal) Gallacher (Blackburn) Carbone (Sheff Wed) Wallace (Leeds) Dublin (Coventry) Hartson (West Harn) Valli (Chelsea) Baiano (Derby) Blake (Bolton) Davies (Southampton) Ekoku (Wimbledon) Ferdinand (Tottenham) M Hughes (Chelsea) Lombardo (C Palace) Overmars (Arsenal) Petrescu (Chelsea) Redfearn (Barnsley) Riedle (Liverpool) Speed (Everton) Walsh (Leicester)		887655444333333333333333	Arsenal Aston Villa Bamsley Blackburn Bolton Chelsea Coventry Crystal Palace Derby Everton Leeds Utd Leicester Liverpool Manchester Utd Newcastie Sheffield Wed Southampton Tottenham West Ham	12 2 4 15 4 12 5 3 7 3 8 4 2 4 4 4 2 2 3 2	
Yorke (Aston Villa)		3	Wimbledon	~	

DEFENCE

1. Manchester Utd

Leicester

Newcastle

4. Liverpool

Blackburn

9. Tottenham

=. Crystal Palace

5. Arsenal

8. Derby

10. Bolton

=. Leeds

13. Chelsea

15. Everton

=, Wimbledon

16. Aston Villa

=, West Ham

=. Southampton

Coventry

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1.43

1.43 1.57

1.62

1.62

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13

13

CAUTIONS				
Cards issued	Yellow	Red		
1. C Palace	23	0		
2. Chelsea	16	2		
 Sheffield Wed 	16	2		
4. Arsenal	18	0		
Coventry	18	ō		
Everton	15	2		
7. Tottenham	16			
8. Leeds Utd	15	1		
9. West Ham	15			
Wimbledon	15	0		
 11. Blackburn 	13			
=. Bolton	13			
13. Manchester U		0		
Southampton	14	D		
15. Leicester	11	0		
16. Derby	10			
=. Liverpool	10			
Barnsley	10	0		
19. Newcastle	8	1		
20. Aston Villa	7	0		
НО	ME			
Attendance	Average	% full		
Areanal	37 904	0.994		

			1
НС	A		
Attendance	Average	% fulf	Attendance
Arsenal	37,894	98%	Arsenal
Aston Villa	37,194	95%	Aston Villa
Barnsley	18,537	100%	Barnsley
Blackburn	23,830	76%	Blackburn
Bolton	23,855	95%	Botton
Chelsea	31,510	100%	Chelsea
Coventry	18,439	78%	Coventry
Crystal Palace	22,861	87%	Crystal Palace
Derby	27,530	92%	Derby
Everton	35,703	89%	Everton
Leeds	34,116	85%	Leeds
Leicester	20,644	96%	Leicester
Liverpool	34,852	100%	Liverpool
Manchester Utd	55,078	98%	Manchester Utd
Newcastle	36,681	100%	Newcastle
Sheffield Wed	24,962	63%	Sheffield Wed
Southampton	15,168	99%	Southampton
Tottenham	26,284	79%	Tottenham
West Ham	25,251	97%	West Ham
Wimbledon	16,852	64%	Wimbledon

OF	FENDERS	REFE	₹EE	S
By team	Cards/players			Cards iss Yellow
Arsenal	4Y Bergkamp, Bould	l ————		
Aston Villa	3Y Taylor	1. P Durkin	4	24
Barnsley	3Y Sheridan	2. S Dunn	3	18
Blackburn	2Y+1R Valery	3. G Willard	5	29
Bolton	3Y Taggart	4. M Riley	3	14
Chelsea	5Y Wise	5. M Bodenham	4	17
Coventry	6Y Williams	6. P Alcock	4	16
C Palace	5Y Tuttle	=. U Rennie	4	16
Derby	2Y (3 players)	8. G Ashby	3	12
Everton	4Y+1R Bilic	9. G Barber	5	18
Leeds Utd	3Y Molenaar	10. D Gallagher	4	13
Leicester	3Y Heskey	11. P Jones	4	14
Liverpool	3Y Ince	12. A Wilkle	5	14
Man Utd	3Y Irwin	=. J Winter	5	14
Newcastle	2Y+1R Batty	14. N Barry	4	12
Sheff Wed	2Y+1R Carbone	15. M Reed	2	5
Southamptor	n 2Y Monkou, Williams	16. K Burge	4	11
Tottenham	3Y+1R Edinburgh	17. G Poli	5	12
West Ham	3Y Moncur, Lomas	18. D Elleray	3	7
Wimbledon	3Y Kimble	19. S Lodge	5	10
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	AWAY	INTER	ME	T :
Attendance	P Average	FA Premiership club	s' offic	tal webs

Average	FA Premiership clubs' official website	\$
26,835	Arsenal www.arsenal.co.u	ĸ
27,379	Aston Vitta	-
22,277	Bamsley -	_
26,114	Blackburn www.rovers.co.u	
22,160	Bolton www.boltonwic.co.u	
28.888	Chelsea www.chelseafc.co.u	
37.828	Coventry www.ccic.co.u	
22,494	C Palace www.cpic.co.u	ĸ
26.820	Derby -	_
29,221	Everton evertorifc.merseyworld.com	
26,901	Leeds www.lufc.co.u	
29,826	Leicester www.lctc.co.u	ĸ.
27.830	Liverpool Man Utd	_
28,165	Man Utd www.sky.co.uk/sports/man Newcastle www.newcastle-utd.co.uk/nu/	
25.884	Sheff Wed -	C
		-
25,634	Southampton www.soton.ac.uk/~sain	
34,558	Tottenham www.spurs.co.u	
26,893	West Ham www.westhamunited.co.u	lk,
32,878	Wirnbledon -	-
30,386	FA Premiership www.fa-carling.com	n

WEEKEND MATCHES

	A SA NOT THE PARTY OF THE PARTY
Sp.	Kick-off 3.0 unless stated "denotes all-ticket Pools coupon numbers in brackets In Premership features, 1 denotes sold out, otherwise tickets still available TODAY
3	FA Carling Premiership (1) Aston Vila v Shelfield Wednesday
	(4) Crystal Palace v Bolton
\dashv	(6) Everion v Arsenal(7) † Leeds v Manchester Utd
•	(8) * Tottenham v Wimbledon(9) † West Ham v Liverpool
	Nationwide League First division
\Box	(10) Bury v West Bronwich
	(12) Crewe v Transper (13) Manchester City v Swindon (14) Nottingham Forest v Stoke
	(15) Cadaid Old V Bracitors
ıli	(16) Port vale v Cuterns Park Hangers (17) Portsmouth v Reading (18) Sheffield Uld v Birmingham (19) Wolverhampton v Huddersfield
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	Portsmouth 8 2 2 4 11 12 8
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3	Second division (20) Blackpool v Southend
	(22) Brentlord v Burnley
	(24) Cartisle v Gitingham (25) * Northampton v Milwali
	(27) Plymouth v Walsall
·	20) Blackpool v Southend (21) Boumemouth v Grimsby (22) Brenttord v Burnley (23) Brestol Cdy v Luton (24) Cerrises v Giltingham (25) * Northampton v Millwell (26) Oldharn v Bristol Rosss (27) Plymouth v Walseal (28) Wattord v York (29) Wigan v Futhern (30) Wrecham v Chesterfield (31) Wycomba v Preston (31) Wycomba v Preston (32) P W D L F A Pts
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Ш	Northampton . 8 5 2 1 10 5 17 Chesterfield 8 4 3 1 10 6 15
-	Olcharn 8 3 4 1 12 10 13 Bristol Rov 8 3 4 1 9 5 13 Milwall 6 4 0 2 12 6 12
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(37) Macclestield	l v F	ale	bori	ough	١			IS
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(32) Barnet v Lincoln (—) Brighton v Rochdale — (33) Cambridge Utd v Cardiff (34) Calabradas v Fester

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Statistics compiled by Julian Desborough

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Newport ArC v Chelmslord, Trowbridge v Basinley, Warney v Baldock, ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Degenhern and Red v Hendon, Entied v St Albans Institution: Chertisey v Leyton Pennant: Molessey v Abingdon Town; Thame Utd v Berkhemsted, Utdridge v Aldershot Town Second division: Bracknell v Cheshun, Challont S Peter v Banstead; Horsham v Northwood, Leghton Town v Edgware Third division: Croydon v Clapton: East Thurrock v Ford Utd; Epsom and Ewell v Hempotead; Homothurch v Ware; Lewes v Kingshun; Southall v Hertford UNBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Altraton v Barrow. Altrincham v Boston, Colwyn Bay v Barrow, Austractan't Destant, Committee, Radcitte-Spernymoor First division: Bradford Pf. Ave-Netherfield; Buxton v Great Harwood: Congleton Ashton United. Droylsden v Tratford; Eastwood Town v Matdock Town, Flaton v Workington Harrogate Town v Whitley Bay; Slocksbridge PS

Althori
LEAGUE OF WALES: Aberystwyth v Rhyl (2 30),
Bangor City v Barry (2 0); Caersw's v Ceemarion
(2.30); Coriwy v Carmarthen Town (2 0); Ownbran
v Cernaes Ynys Mon (2.30); Ebbw Vale v Cornan's
Quay (2 30); Fifnt Town v Havertordwest (2 30),
Inter Cable Tel v Porthmadog (2 30); TNS v
Rhayadar Town (2.30); Welshpool v Newtown
(2 30) 30). MIRINOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Premier division: allymena v Glentoran; Chitomylle v Omagh, olerane v Glenavon; Crusaders v Linheld, est science v Automatics.

PRESS & JOURNAL MIGHLAND LEAGUE Eign vhurity. Fores Mechanics v keth, Lossemouth v Wick Academy.

FA CLIP, Second qualitying round: Gatecheed v Gainsborough; South Shields v Meine Road; Hattas v Leigh RMI; Burscough v Osset Town: Chortey v Bishop Auddand; Ilkeston v RTM Newcastle; Whithy v Winstond, Amold v Shotlon Comrades; Hyde v Lancaster; Ryhope CA v St Helens; Durhem v Emley, Belper Town v Parkgate, Morpeth v Forthy, Gerhar u Liversedge, Garloth v Byth Sparane, Bring Town v Worksop, Bambor Bridge v Farsley Cellic, Pennith v Easington Collegy, Bedworth v Nunesion; Southodge v Bridghorth Kettering v Cambordge City; Hinckley Utd v Great Yammouth, Sudbury v Bromsgrove; Brackley Town v Rocester, Knypersiev v Gresley, Spatching v Lowestott; Rothwell v Helesowen Town, Redditor v Willerhalt; Bilston v King's Lym; Newmarket v V Stugby; Solinull v Granitiam; Woodbridge Switts; Martow v Flactowell Heath; Stennort v Carney; Island, Greys v Camberley Town; Bognor Regs v Hestings, Croydon v Aweley, Smartopourne v Purfled, Langney Sports v Dorting; Welling v Sution United: Torbindge v Worthing; Welling v Sution United: Torbindge v Stantest Police v Wivenhoe; Brontree v Stantester v Heston v Angels on Janton Oners, Mangete v Histon v Pomfield v Deal; Welling v Audrol v Deal;

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TOMORROW ationwide League irst division underland v Middlesbrough († 0) ... AI HARP LAGER NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier Imision: Cork v St Palifick's Ath (2:0): UCD v Proghede (3 15)
PRESS & JOURINAL HIGHLAND LEAGUE: Veterhead v. Clachnacuddin A CUP: Second qualifying round: Dartord v



CRICKET

Tufnell faces ban over claims he refused drug test

THE news that Phil Tufnell has allegedly refused to give a urine sample for a random drugs test could have the most severe repercussions for the Middlesex spin bowler.

If the charge is proved, Tufnell could be dropped from the England party to tour the West Indies in January and be banned from cricket for at least the whole of the 1998 season, because refusing to provide a sample is as serious as having a positive test for a hanned substance.

Tufnell, 31, has just fought back into Test cricket after a series of incidents that have not endeared him to the

The England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) yesterday announced it has received a report from the United Kingdom Sports Council (UKSC), which conducts drug-testing for all sports, that Tufnell declined to give a specimen during Middlesex's game against Essex at Chelmsford last week, the last fixture of the county season. When Tufnell returns from his holiday abroad, he will face an ECB

disciplinary hearing.
Tim Lamb, the ECB chief executive, said yesterday: "It is potentially a serious matter case was when Ed Giddins,



Tufnell: faces ECB inquiry

but it would be quite wrong of us to pre-empt the result of the disciplinary hearing. It is only right to give Phil the opportunity to put his side of the

Point seven of the ECB's guidelines on drug-testing says: "It is an offence regarded as serious as giving a positive sample. There is no excuse for failing to comply with the notice to take drug control tests and, if you do not take it, you are liable to be dealt with as if you have been shown to have had a prohibited substance in your body."

There are about 130 drug tests in cricket every year and

Whittall hits heights ready to end his Derbyshire A CAREER-BEST double-

century from Guy Whittall put New Zealand on the defensive on the second day of the second and final Test match in Bulawayo yesterday. Whittall's undefeated 203 helped Zimbabwe to 461, their third-highest total in 24 Tests. leaving New Zealand with little to play for beyond the draw and, at the close, they were 23 without loss.

☐ Devon Malcolm has dismissed rumours that he is

career. The England fast bowler has been linked with a lucrative move to Worcestershire but last night insisted he was set to stay at the County Ground. "People like to dream about my future and these are just rumours," Malcolm, 34, said.

☐ The England and Wales Cricket Board has announced a sponsorship deal with Pepsi-Cola for the World Cup

found to have taken cocaine. He was banned from cricket for 19 months and will be allowed to return on April 1

Tufnell's career has been studded with controversy. In 1994, he was fined £800 by a North London court for assaulting his former fiancée, Jane McEvoy, while she was pregnant. She later claimed that Tufnell had taken cocaine, which he denied. However, Tufnell was attacked with a brick by his fiance's father and Middlesex had to give him compassionate leave while he sorted out his person-

He once spent a night in a mental hospital after repeatedly hitting his head against the walls of a hotel in Perth, Australia. On the field, he was fined in 1993 for snatching his cap from an umpire during the England tour of India and also fined for hurling the ball to the ground against the Australians. Middlesex have fined him for making an obscene gesture to spectators at Lord's.

The latest incident was in February this year, when he was alleged to have smoked marijuana in the lavatory of a restaurant in New Zealand, a claim he denied. After all the controversy, he

kept trying to get a regular place in the England team. He was selected for the first five Tests this year but was released without bowling a ball. When he was at last chosen, for the last match at the Oval. he took 11 for 93 and was named man of the match England's thrilling victory.

was automatically picked for the West Indies tour but, just as he thought his career was finally in the ascendancy again, he faces this latest blow. He has played 28 Tests for England.

Briton produces masterclass

Whitaker turns on the style at Wembley

By JENNY MACARTHUR

JOHN WHITAKER, who is thrilling the crowds at Wernbley with his acclaimed "teach-in" for novice jumpers, gave a convincing display of his winning style in the NSR Silver Bullet Salver at the Horse of the Year Show yesterday, when he and Virtual Village Heyman relegated the Norwegian national champion, Geir Gulliksen, on Alex H.

to second place by 0.76sec. In a rewarding day for the Yorkshire rider, Whitaker lat-er finished a close second to James Fisher on his Linz Grand Prix winner, Renville, in the Fordyce Curry International Cup.

Although the £500 that Whitaker won in the opening class was paltry compared with some of his previous winnings at Wembley (in 1989 he netted £27,000 in the Masters), his pleasure in Heyman's performance appeared to be reward enough. "He goes better each time out," Whitaker said. "He may not make an Olympic horse but he's very careful and very fast. He's definitely a horse for the

The eight-year-old Dutchbred gelding had been outpaced in the opening speed class on Thursday, in which they finished fourth, and Whitaker was determined not to miss out again yesterday. The course was not overdemanding, putting a premium on speed. "I knew it would be fast as soon as I walked it." Whitaker said.

Heyman proved more than equal to the task. Effortlessly moving up a gear he sped round the 12-fence course. turning almost in mid-air after the double at fence No 5 to finish clear in 48.11sec. Although greeted as the winning round, Whitaker had to wait for confirmation until the next 22 riders had tried in vain to match his time. Heyman has already

Whitaker powers to victory on Virtual Village Heyman proved he has the scope to match his speed, most recently in the Paris Grand Prix last week, where he was jointeighth after incurring just four faults over his biggest track to date. Tonight he will encounter another demanding track

ride Grannusch, the 18-year old who underlined his form with second place in the Fordyce Curry Cup yesterday. in the Daewoo championship. Ladbroke's, in their first venture into showjumping, have made him favourite. In between these two classes. Whitaker will give two more displays of his "teach-in" in partnership with Geoff

IN BRIEF Late rally takes Australia through ENGLAND'S hopes of reaching the final of the junior world cup hockey tournament at Milton K ynes yesterday disappeared as Australia scored two late goals to win a

gruelling semi-final 2-I. Australia secured their third entry into the final, having finished runners up in 1982 and 1989. Australia's pressure finally broke down England's defence in the 58th minute when the substitute outside left, Taylor, found space on the left of the circle and pushed the ball into goal for a hard-earned equaliser. Elder scored the winner from a short corner four minutes later. England had taken the lead in the twelfth minute, when Simons finished off a well-worked short corner. England will play Germany tomorrow for the bronze medal.

Sainz to rejoin Toyota

MOTOR RALLYING: Carlos Sainz, from Spain, the former world champion, is leaving Ford to rejoin Toyota next season after the completion of the Japanese team's oneyear ban for using illegal turbo restrictors. Ove Andersson, president of Toyota Motorsport, said: "His wealth of experience and technical knowledge will be enormous assets in next year's assault on the world cl. ampionship."

Marshall marches on

SOUASH: Peter Marshall yesterday defeated Rodney Eyles, of Australia, the top seed, 15-7, 15-14, 15-13 in the quarter-finals of the Rush Creek US Open championship in Minneapolis. It was Marshall's second win over the world No 2 this year. Marshall, 26, of Nottingham, will now meet Simon Parke, also of England, while Peter Nicol, the Scot, will play Jonathon Power.

Hollioake at the helm

CRICKET: England have been seeded third, behind West Indies, the holders, and Australia in the sixth New T&T Cathay Pacific International Hong Kong Sixes. Adam Hollioake, of Surrey, leads a squad containing six members of the party to tour Lahore and Sharjah in December.

ENGLAND SOUAD: A Hollicake (Surrey), A Brown (Surrey), D Brown (Warwickshire), M Ealham (Kenn), M Flenning (henti), B Holliceke (Surrey), G Lloyd (Lancashire).

Hosts entertain England

HOCKEY: England have been drawn in the same group as Holland, the hosts, and South Korea, the Olympic silver medal-winners, in the women's World Cup finals in Utrecht next May. Scotland have been drawn in the same group as Australia, the world and Olympic champions.

WORLD CUP: Pool A: Australia, China, Germany, Scotland, South Africa, United States Pool B: Aggentina, England, India, South Koree, Holland, New Zealand.

Burton's name lives on

CYCLING: A permanent memorial to Beryl Burton, who won seven world road and track championships between 1959 and 1967, will be unveiled this evening at the Manchester velodrome. The memorial is a large display cabinet presented by the Road Time-Trials Council, whose British best all-rounder championship was won by Burton, who died last year. 25 years in succession.

MOTOR RACING: PANIS MAKES RAPID RETURN TO FORMULA ONE STAGE

Villeneuve plans a quick getaway

FROM RICHARD HOBSON

IT IS supposed to be Michael Schumacher, the aloof perfectionist, who leaves nothing to chance. Yesterday, however, Jacques Villeneuve gave a passable impersonation of his rival for the Formula One drivers' world championship when he spoke of his preparations for the Luxemburg Grand Prix here tomorrow,

Villeneuve, who reduced the deficit between Schumacher and himself to one point at the Austrian Grand Prix last week, revealed that he spent Thursday at Silverstone attempting to remedy the poor starts that have blemished his

After exchanging the overall leadership with Schumacher four times during the early weeks of the season, Villeneuve has trailed the man who

Grand Prix in June, a race remembered for the horrific accident experienced by Olivier Panis. While Panis returns tomorrow, after breaking his legs, it will take a monumental drive to divert attention from the compelling contest be-

tween the two leading

protagonists. Villeneuve won here last season and, as Damon Hill acknowledged when comparing the two drivers earlier this week, he has the advantage in machinery. Whether he can make the superiority of his Williams-Renault over Schumacher's Ferrari count is another matter.

"It would be stupid to lose the championship because of a bad start, Villeneuve, re-iterating that he is under contract to Williams in 1998. said after practice yesterday.

has won two world champion-ships since the Canadian while in England. "Going Schumacher and they will not there made the schedule tight. but it was very useful.

"We have had three bad

starts and each time it has

been clutch slip. In the split-

second each time I felt it was wheel spin and did the opposite of what was right, but by the time I figured it out I lost two or three positions. You cannot exclude all of the others but, at this stage, the primary concern is to finish in front of Michael. This is a feel-good circuit for me because he was in my mirror here last year and that was a great feeling." Villeneuve is annoyed at the tightening of the chicane here and believes the cold track temperatures may present difficulties. He can also expect a frosty reception from the crowd, with the track actually

located in the Eifel Forest of

Germany. Many of the

FOR THE RECORD

take kindly to the Williams team order that Heinz-Harald Frentzen, another German. will be expected to help Villeneuve. Asked about instructions, Villeneuve said bluntly: "I am fighting for the championship and Heinz-Harald is

not I do not intend to be

behind him in any case." It will be an emotional return for Panis. Third in the championship at the time of his accident, he was not expected to reappear this season, such was the scale of his injuries. "I never thought my career was over for a minute." Panis said. He finished eleventh in practice yesterday, one place ahead of Villeneuve. with Mika Hakkinen producing the quickest lap of lmin 17.998sec in his McLaren-Mercedes, and Schumacher TENNIS: BRITON OVERCOMES KAFELNIKOV TO EARN SEMI-FINAL PLACE

Rusedski through to meet Sampras

FROM JULIAN MUSCAT

Martin Collins leading

showjumper of the year, one of

the show's most coveted titles.

Earlier today, Whitaker will

GREG RUSEDSKI'S battling qualities stood him in good stead here last night as he earned a place in the semifinals of the Compaq Grand Slam Cup. Rusedski, the world No 10. beat Yevgeni Kafelnikov 6-7, 6-3, 6-1 and will now have his status subjected to its most severe test. Today, he faces Pete

The British No I. who is now guaranteed prize-money of £290,000, matched Kafel nikov every step of the way in the first set before losing out in the tie-break, but he showed all of the determination that has taken him up the rankings to take the second set 6-3. He then broke the former French Open champion three times to win the final set.

joining the world elite, but whether he can take that final stride is open to considerable doubt. Having beaten Boris Becker here on Wednesday, Bjorkman was after larger headlines yesterday when he confronted Sampras. He failed on account of his fragile temperament, gift-wrapping Sampras victory with some illtimed double faults.

At this level, intrinsic weaknesses are impossible to disguise. Bjorkman's first service is powerful enough but his second, a noticeably weak delivery, renders him vulnerable to the receiver. When that receiver is Samoras, Biorkman's problem intensifies, so much so that, having matched Sampras in a tight first set, Bjorkman collapsed completely in the ensuing tie-break. The Swede double faulted at loose volley. Obligingly, how-ever, Bjorkman double-fault-

ed again at 6-7 to forfeit the set. Worse was to follow. At 1-1 in the second, Bjorkman saved the first of two break points with a strong first service. But when, at 30-40, Bjorkman's



Like Rusedski, Jonas Bjork- 5-5, handing Sampras a set first service failed him, it was man remains one step from point he squandered with a no surprise when his second tollowed suit. Sampras needed no second prompting to close out the match 7-6, 6-4.

> Bjorkman's capitulation was a great pity. The victor over Sampras at Queen's Club three months ago, he looked perfectly at home trading blows with the game's arch exponent. He is among the batch of young turks taking aim at the top ten, but his fallibility under pressure is

alarming. Sampras, for his part, has the air of a man routinely detained in the office. Although he admits to having difficulty motivating himself outside the grand-slam tournaments, the Grand Slam Cup has become his counting house. In six appearances here, Sampras has accrued \$6.4 million (about £4 million).

GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES

CRICKET Second Test match Zimbabwe v New Zealand BULANAYO (second day of their New Designal with all trist-mines wickers of hand are 438 nurs behind I mbabase

G J Whiteli not out "A D R Campbell a Asse b O'Conner Houghton b Cams A Strang a Harris b Vetton . . .

FALL OF WICKETS 1-144, 2-148, 3-218 4-244, 5-322, 6-343, 7-416, 8-420, 9-421 BOWLING Sewel 19-4-81-0, O Compa 27-9-80-3 Carric 26-11-97-3 Vertico 58-11-165-4, Hams 14-6-13-0; Actie 7-2-15-0 NEW ZEALAND, First Innings

Total (no wkt)...... M. J. Horne, "S. P. Flerning, N. J. Astie, C. L. Carris, "A C. Parore, C. Z. Harris, D. L. Verton, S. B. O'Connor and D. G. Sevrelli to bat. SOWLING Streak 5-1-10-0 Metamban addo 3-1-5-0: P.A. Strand 5-4-2-0: Muckle ng 5-4-2-0: Huckk Umpres: A B Tiffin (Zimbabwe) and S Verhalaracharan (Inna)

BASEBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Philodelphia 2 Al-lanta 3 (10mhs), Montreal 3 Florida 2. Houston 9 Chicago Cubs 1, St Lous 3 Chromata 4 (14mms), Colorado 5 Los Anceles 9 AMERICAN LEAGUE: Deltrol 1 Boston 3. Mikabuke 1 Karsas Chy 2, Cleyeland 4 micronum Lenaue: Derror 1 Boston 3, Mikraukee 1 Kanses City 2, Cleveland 4 New York Yankees 5 (10mms): Toronto 4 Baltimore 3, Chicago White Sox 10 Minnesota 5; Anahorm 5 Toxas 8

BASKETBALL

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Leopards 104 BUDWEISEN LEMBUR.
Letcester Hiders 99
EUROPEAN CUP: Group A: Maccabr Tel
Aww 87 Real Madrid BC. Limoges (Fr) 62
Etes Pileon (Fur) 77: Chimouelass Prasus
Gr) 86 CSKA Moscow 74 Group B:
Coata Splic 74 PACK Salorela (Gr) 76;
Boneton (B) 76 Porto 67 Group C:
Guidelina 87 Partizan Belgrade 71; Happel

Jerusalom 80 Ulter Istanbul 74 Group D: Alba Berlin 79 Racing Paris 71 (OT) BOWLS

GUERNSEY: European championsher:
Pairs: Fourth round: Jersey IS Dingle and
C Renoufs bt Span (C Toleran and T
Plung; 18-14 Wates IA Damton and T
Plung; 18-14 Wates IA Damton and D
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IF Holland of Thomps and W water Griele)
19-6 Wates IJ Wason and W Thomasi as
England (M Price and J Bell) (7-16 Instand
M Johnston and M Gestam) of Span (P
Colo and D Tolenani 30-3 Guernsey (A
Johnston and W Smit) 37-10. Jersey (C
Symel and D Le Marquand) of Scotland (S
and D Goullay) 19-17 Fifth round: Indised
(Xane and McClov)) of Holland (Indram and
Van Ginkel) 31-12 England (Balver and
Morley) of Quernecy (Hurforc and Smort)
56-8 Wates (Damton and Wilders) bis Span
(Tolerann and Pfilmig) 21-9, Scotland
Renoul) 32-5 Jodge (Syvret and Le Mar-Renout) 32-5 Jersey (Syrret and Lo Mar quandi bi Guernsey (Sirren and Peschou 15-13 Instand (Johnston and Graham) b Scotland (Gourlay and Gourlay) 24-8; England (Price and Boll) of Holland (Abriso) and Smit) 31-9, Wales (Nason and Tho-mas) bi Spain (Cole and Toleman) 23-21

CYCLING TOUR OF SPAIN: Nineteenth stage (Valledolid to Los Angolos de Son Rates).

184km; 1, J.M. Johenez (Sc. Paresto) Air 31mm 38bor, 2, D. Clavero (So. Estebora-Toscal) at 15ec, 3, R. Horas (So. Northe-costal Barnay sarre time, 4, P. Alchard (Switz, Casho) 18, 5, L. Jackett, Fr. City, CS. 11, Lepting annual profilers 1, 4, 700

EQUESTRIANISM

FOOTBALL

PONTIN'S LEAGUE: Premier division: Asion Villa 2 Shefield Wed 1 Blachtum 3 Sloke 0 First division: Nets Court, C Coverty 3 Second division: Burley 1 Vincitam 2 Third division: Wacal 1 Southern 2

NURBURGRING DETAILS

LUXEMBURG GRAND PROX: Practica timus: 1, M Haldunen (Fin, McLaren-Mer-cedes) 1 mm 17 998 sec: 2, R Barrehollo (Br. trims: 1, M Hakkimen (Fin, McLaren-Insprecedes) from 17 998-sec 2 R Bornetcello (Er. Stenzart-Ford) 1:18:339; 3. G Berger (Austra, Benetton-Renauth):18:434, 4, R Schumacher (Ger Jordan-Paugeot):178:713; 5. J Aley (Fr. Benetton-Renauth):1:8:79:6, D Coultmand (GB. McLaren-Mercedes):1:8:912, 7, H-H Frentzen (Ger, Willams-Renauft):1:8:924; 8, M Schumacher (Ger Ferann):1:19:934; 10, D Hill (GB, Arrows-Yamaha):1:9:034; 10, D Hill (GB, Arrows-Yamaha):1:9:031; 11, O Paris (Fr. Proct Mugen-Honda):1:19:412; 12, J Villomauna (Can, Williams-Renauth):1:19:600; 13, E hvme (GB, Ferann):1:19:708; 14, P Dritz (Br., Arrows-Yamaha):1:19:708; 14, P Dritz (Br., Arrows-Yamaha):1:19:709; 15, S Nokana (Japan, Progri Mugen-Honda):1:20:373; 16, J Warrows-Yamaha (Den, Stewart-Ford):1:20:947; 19, M Salo (Fin, Tymal-Ford):1:20:947; 19, M Salo (Fin, Tymal-Ford):1:20:947; 19, M Salo (Fin, Tymal-Ford):1:21:118:20, G Morbidelli (It. Saluber-Petronaa):1:21:387; 21, T Marques (Br.)

GRANDS PRIX TO COME: Tomorrow: Luxembourg (Nurburgmg) Oct 12: Japa-nese (Suzuka). Oct 28: European (Jerez!

Minardi-Hart) 1:21 434; 22; U Karavama (Japan, Minardi-Hart) 1:38 344

CHAMPIONSHIP POSITIONS Table 14 races! Develors 1, M Schumacher 62;52 2 Villencius 67, 3, Frontiers 31: 4 Countrain 30: 5 Aless 28: 6, Barger 21: 7, Frontiers 30; 8, Imme 18: 9 Parris 15: 10 equal, Hawkerer and Herbert 14; 12; R Schumacher 12: 13; H8 7, 14; Sambrelso 6; 15; A Wurz Hautma, Bornation Remault 9, 16; Trust 3: 17 occus! Salo and Nelsano 2: 19; N Larva (h. Sauber-Petronas) 17; Constituctory: 1; Williams, Barnation 53; 4, McLaron-Mercedos 44; 5, Jordan-Peugeott 33; 6; Prost Mugon-Honda 20; 7; Sauber-Portonas 15; 8; Arrows-Yamaha 7; 9; Stewart-Ford 6; 10; Tymel-Ford 2.

First round: mucus:
Baston A West Tyne 2
FRENCH LEAGUE: Lyons 1 Lens 3
Marsellos 0 Borosaux 2 Marsellos () DUTCH_LEAGUE; Sparta_Rotterdam 4

FA WOMEN'S LEAGUE: Northern division: Arnold 0 Huddersfield 3 SCHOOLS MATCHES: Fun Film Trophy: First round: Huddersheld 1 Sheffield 3.

SOUTH AMERICAN SUPER CUP: Group one: Ccts Colo (Chie) 2 Boca Junear; l'Argi 1 Group three: River Plato (Arg) 5 Visco da Game (Bri 1 Group four: Gremo (Br) 2 Nepocal (Col) 2: Ponarol (Uni) 2 International Argin (Uni) 2

ENDICOTT, New York: BC Open: Leading first-round accures (United States, universitated) 68: G Kraft, 67: J Delsing, A Magec, M Santh, G Hasborn, J Schedelin, S Marphy, 68: J McGoren, D Stephton, Jr. March, C Peny L Manhace T Tyba, G Warth (Party L Manhace T Tyba, G Tyba

RUGBY LEAGUE International match New Zealand 30 Australia New Zealand: Tries: Eru 2, 5 James 2.

Pudgo, to Gools: Reign 3. Australia: Tries Leckyer 2. Gools: Girdler 2. (at North Harbour Stadium, Auckland) **RUGBY UNION** CLUB MATCH: Newtonoge 17 Caratif 55 SCHOOLS MATCHES: Daily Mail Under 18 Cup: First round: Carlottury Cei 72 Ctaffam GS 0: Shambrook Upper 7

SAILING WHITBREAD ROUND THE WORLD RACE: Latest positions: 1, EF Language 6,273.5 miles to finish; 2, Innovation Kvaemer 6,277 8; 3, Morat Cup 6,305.4, 4 Sok Cut 6,327 1; 5, Chessia Racing 6,331.9, 6 Trishiba 6,420 7; 7, Swedish Match **SPEEDWAY**

ELITE LEAGUE: Swindon 49 Peterborough 41 Iprwiich 52 Poole 38 PREMIER LEAGUE: Isle of Wight 53 Friedungh 16 PREMIER LEAGUE: Isle of Wight 53 Edimburgh 36 AMATEUR LEAGUE: Anglian Angels 21 Mildenhall 39 Labandonied after fon hoots. Supernal of Loshdoned arter for hoats, but result stands! SHEFFIELD: Ende Northern nders championship: 1, 1 Screen (Bradford), 2, 6 Hancot, (Covertry), 3, B Hamel (Bolie Vuc), 4, 5 Wisson (Bradford)

SQUASH

MINNEAPOLIS. United States Open: First round: Men: R Eyes; [Aux.) to J Bisneta (Fr.) 17-16, 15-8, 15-8, P. Mershall (Eng.) to A Barada (Eg.) 15-14, 15-7 15-10: D Hains Eng.) to G Biyding (Can) 15-15, 8-15, 5-15-15-15 10: J Power (Can) to M. Hosah (Scot) 15-12, 15-2, 10-5 net Women: R Market (Egn.) b F. Marc (Marc N.) 10, 10, 9.7 Macter (Engl M E Magner (Arr.) 9-10, 9-7, 9-3, 8-10, 9-5, 8 Schone (Ger) bt N Tepett (Aus.) 3-9, 9-1, 9-3, 9-2, K Magn (Aus.) bt C Venter (Sa) 9-4, 9-1, 0-8, 8 Wingth (Engl bt K Kocal (Aus.) 9-6, 9-2, 10-8

MUNICH: Company Grand Stem Cup-Ouerter-finals: P Sampras (US) bt J Bjorkeran (Swe) 7-5, 6-4, G Rupedsh (GB) bt Y Nationalon Russi 6-7-6, 6-1 TOUROUSE: Men's fournament: Socond round: M Philopousos: (Aus) bt L Rous (Pr) 6-3, 6-7, 6-3 G Raoux (Fr) bt M Manchi (III) 6-3, 6-7, 6-3 G Raoux (Fr) bt M Manchi (III) 6-3, 6-7, 6-3 G Raoux (Fr) bt M Manchi (III) 6-3, 6-7, 6-3 G Raoux (Fr) bt M Manchi (III) 6-1, 7-6, 6-1, 6-1, V Spacka (US) bt J Greetsto (US) 6-3, 7-6 BUCHAREST: Men's bournament: Cus-freds: LA Goldero (Gor) bt C Costa (Sol 6-2, 7-6, A Goudena (III) bt N Laponth (Ec) 6-2, 6-4, F Clavol (Sp) bt J Sanchez (Sp) 6-6, 6-3, R Fromberg (Aus) bt A Portaz (Sp) 6-4, 6-3 SUNDERLAND: Satelito bournament (Grand Britant unions stated): Man Ouarter-finals; D Sapotard bt A Parma 6-2, 4-6, 6-4, M Barther fin Et N Gould 6-2, 2-6, 6-2, L Millogan N M Gengore (Slovens) 6-2, 6-4, N

n outcas (FI) of N COURT 6-2, 2-6, 6-2, 1. Missan N M Gregore (Stovens) 6-2, 6-4, N Wats bi P Roberton 4-6, 7-6, 7-6
LEPZIG: Wormen's tournament: Second round: S Mccrours (Ca) bi Y Basuin (Indo) 4-6, 6-3, 7-5 Outstor-finale; A Huber (Got) bi I Majoli (Co) 4-6, 7-6, 6-4, J Nicotra (Ca) bi Kienova 6-4, 6-2, A Cocker (SA) bit M Graythouth (Pd) 6-1, 7-6. to Newtons 6-4, b-2, A Coccey (SA) bt M Gradonska (P0) 6-1, 7-6 SURABAYA, Indonessa: Women's too by Hinous (Japani 6-2, 6-3, MA Vonto (Ven bt S Piluorshi (Fi) 6-3, 6-2 D von Rocat (Bel) bi D Randhedry (Mad) 6-0, 6-2 R McQuillen (Aus) bt N Profit (Aus) 3-6, 6-2, 8-2

RUGBY UNION

Heineken Cup Pool A Loicester v Loinstor Pool B Pool C Bath v Scotlish Borders . Pontypodd v Brive (2 15) Pool D

Today

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated

Bourgon v Hariequins (5.05). Munsfer v Cardiff (al Musorave Park, Cork) Trevisa v Calodonia (2.0) European Conterence Pool A Bristol v Ebbw Valo (20) Pool B

Pool C London Insh v Dax (2 30) . . Pool D Beglos v Northampton (7.0) Comracht v Nice (at Sports Ground, Galway)...... Pool E Bridgend v Richmond (6.0)

Biarritz v Edinburgh (7.0) Perpignan v Newcastle (7.30) Pool H Castres v Saracens († 15) Narbonne v Neath (6 30) Allied Dunbar Premiership Coventry v Bedford Fylde v Rotherham London Scotich v Orrell Moseley v Exeter Waterloo v Blackheath Jewson National League First division Hartogale v Roading Loeds v Morley London Welsh v Nottingham Newbury v Lydney Otley v Liverpool St Helons Rosslyn Park v Worcester Whartedale v Rugby

SECOND DIVISION NORTH: Hinckley v Nunculon Lichteid v Aspalha; Manchester v

Pool G

Nondal, Proston Grasshoppers v Birming-ham/Solthul, Sedpley Park v Walsalt, Stour-indge v Shofficid, Winnington Park v Sandal SECOND DIVISION SOUTH: Bridgwater v Cambertey, Chellenham v Hentey, Chitpon v Havent, Esher v Balking, North Walsham v Taborth Rodruth v Plymouth, Weston-super-Man v Metropolitan Police

Weish League First division First Olivision
Aberavon v Merthyr (2 0)
Aberavon v Merthyr (2 0)
Aberavon v Merthyr (2 0)
Durward v Ceerphilly (2 0)
Lundovery v Blackwood (2 0)
Puntypool v Rumney (2 0)
South Wales Polico v Newbridge (2 0)
Trearchy v Cross Keys (2 0)
Cardiff Inst v Meesteg (2 0) SRU League Trophy Group A

Group A
Hawak v Glasgow Hawks ...
Hone's FP v Currie
Kiricalidy v Edinburgh Acads
Muscelburgh v Melrose
Preston Lodge v Gola Group B Biggar Watsoniane Ounder HSPP v Boroughmun Jack-Forast v Stirting County Peebles v Kilmannock. West of Scotland v Kelso . GROUP C: Aberdeen CSPP v Grangemouth: Slowari a Metville FP v Glerrothe's Group D: Ayr v Glasgow Southern; Sellurk v Slowanty

RUGBY LEAGUE NOGBY LEAGUE
National 230
NATIONAL CONFERENCE LEAGUE: Premer division; Askom v Heworth, Bevorloy v
Wegon St Pairck's; Oudby His v Egremon;
Loca Limo v West Hull, Mayfold v
Saddriverth, Oldrium St Arms's v Wootston,
Whiney Cersal v Leigh Miners: First division:
Barrow Island v Outlon; East Veolstonek
Barrow Island v Outlon; East Leeds v
Blackbrook Leigh East v Midlord; Middignen
v Millom, Rodhell v Shaw Cross; Skirburgh v
Hornhell, Wilynn St Audo's v Eastmoor
Second division. Crossolds v Featherstone
Armaleus

HOCKEY

WOMEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division. Cellion v Olion (12:30) Doncaster v Hightown (12:0) Shugh v Sutton C (at Carsson, 12:20) Tropare v Isordeni (13:0) First division: Beclare v Loughborough Students (12:30). Cantorbury v Brackmoll (12:0), Lecessas v Contractord (12:30). Wimtstodon v Bradford (12:0) Second division Advision Advision (2:0). Beclared division Advision (2:0). Second division Advision (2:0). Oli Loughtoward v Ealing (1:0). W Wilney v Sherwood (12:0)

OTHER SPORT BASEBALL: National championship finals (all Walthum Abboy) ICE HOCKEY: Benson and Hedges Cup: Sheffold v Ayr (7 0), Telford v Pauley (7 30), Notungham v Slough (7 0), Basingstoke v Brocknett (6 30)

SPEEDWAY: Elte League: Swindon Coventry (7 30) Premier League: Berwick Sheftleid (6 30); Stoke v Edinburgh (7 30)

Tomorrow RUGBY UNION en Cup Pool E

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Llanelli v Pau (2.15) European Conference Pool B Sale v Montpelher (3.0). .. Peol F

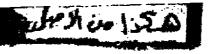
RUGBY LEAGUE Stones Premiership Final St Helens v Wigen (at Old Trafford, 3.0). Divisional Premiership Final

Hudderstield v Hull (at Old Trafford, 12:30) OTHER SPORT BASEBALL: National championship linuis (a) BASKETBALL: Budwelser League: Shel-fold v Derby (6.0), Landon Towers v Waterd CYCLING: Bresh Cycling Federation 26-mass time-triol championship (Ripon, 11 30am).

11 30am).
ICE HOCKEY: Benson and Hedges Cup:
Ayr V Tetord (5 30): Manchoster v Newcastle
(6 0): Packey v Sheffield (6 30). Brackness v
Potenborough (6 0), Cardiff v Nottingham MOTORCYCLING: British supertake champonchip tel [Conngton Park]

SPEEDWAY Bits League, Belle Vito v Poolo (2.30); Excitourne v Bradford (3.30); Coverry v Swedon (6.0) Premer League. Glasgow v Ete of Wight (1.30), Nevasille v Ido (Wight (7.30); Oxford v Arena Esse. (7.0) TENNIS, LTA satellite sournament (in Sunctriand)

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aybe in the past, some players have found that the England invitation letter dropping through the door has become standard procedure. After the two gatherings that we have had over the past II days with the new national team manrejoin Toyota agement at Bisham Abbey, it will be interesting to see how

individuals develop their atti-tude towards Club England. The key element that has come through strongly from Clive Woodward and his new colleagues is that the best 15 players — at any given time will be the ones on the field. The management wants to encourage the competition that may have been lacking sometimes and the emphasis is on the word "elite". There may be as much pleasure for the management in removing players from the squad as

including them. What they have done is create an aura of uncertainty. This is no comfort zone for the

management have selected them on the basis of performance during the summer, with the British Isles in South Africa and with England in Argentina, but the summer is over. It has created a very competitive environment but, way I see it, at

the beginning of a new season you all start equal. You have players ful on tour, players who may have been aggrieved to have missed out,

tasted international rugby in Argentina and want more. I'm in possession of the No 6 shirt but I, and every player, have to reaffirm form and status within the game. The best way of doing that is playing well for your club, he it in the league or in European competition.

You have to break down the season into cycles beyond which you can't afford to look. You can't think about the five

nations' championship when there's such an important November. The best international sides are stuffed full of players who perform consistently week by week - you cannot allow a situation in

which players pick and choose when to **'Coaches** perform. You canadrenalin every must leave nothing

to chance' Lions in South Africa and if we have learnt anything from the summer, whether you are a coach, player or administrator, it was that nothing should be left to chance, that nine times out of ten the most professional team off the field will be the best on

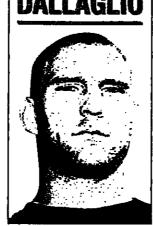
happened with the

This management team has in place individuals with specific areas of responsibility and it is that attention to detail, that economy of scale



Attention to detail and competition for places will be the watchwords of new management team

England ready for move up to club class



that made the Lions successful in South Africa. Clive has surrounded him-

self with the best coaches in England - John Mitchell from Sale. Richard Hill, from Gloucester and Rob Smith.

pleasure since he is from Wasps, the club I captain. That these are all leading club figures is significant because

there is a three-way relationship building, between Eng-land, the players and the clubs. Last year the politics did nothing to enhance the relaform. You need a tionship between England, in the form of the Rugby Football and, if England are to move forward, the link must be a strong one.
People should remember,

too, that Phil de Glanville took over as the captain of England at a particularly difficult. sensitive time in the history of the game and he has done a superb job. He is still the England captain and he not only had to do his job on the field but sort things out off the field as well. I know that there has been intense speculation about that particular role and, with the new structure that is in place, in the future, the England captain

The other issue here is that, you are looking for an individual to lead England into a big tournament like the World Cup, you don't want to leave yourself prey unexpected injury or sudden loss of

contingency plan -- after all, that happened to New Zealand before the right to first World Cup in 1987, when David the limit' Kirk took over from the injured

Andy Dalton. You need a pool of players, any one of whom would be capable of stepping

The way the game is now, so much analysis is done off the field that little is left to chance. The captain's job is to harness the talent and operate at the coalface. The important thing is to get the best 15 players on the pitch and whoever has the honour and privilege of capwill need every team member to make a contribution, to pressure.

England, though, is in the future. The Heineken Cup is with us now and the events of the past formight. involving Brive and Pontypridd, will surely have an must go effect upon all of us in the competition.

Rugby is an un-

compromising game, a highly physical, high-contact sport that at times is brutal. Players have to bring an edge to the game, play right to the limit and, at times, that can spill over into

violence. Guys have to control their discipline under pressure and, in the game at Brive, that didn't happen. What happened off the pitch there was totally unacceptable and gives an entirely incorrect image of

appreciate the increased awareness of rugby among the public. More and more people are following the game, if not as their first love then maybe as their second or third, and players have a role to play in the way that they conduct themselves, on and off the field. Such incidents as those at Brive are highlighted by television and the public will

demand action.

The European Rugby Cup Ltd management board has come down heavily on the two clubs but I think we all realise that you don't want players wrapped in cotton wool. Rugby is an exciting, aggressive game and, last weekend particularly, the games between Bath and Brive and Toulouse and Leicester went some way towards repairing the damage. There is pressure, there is a demand to win and the stakes are getting higher, but we need to retain a sense of respect - for referees and for each other as players.

Jenkins keen to restore Ponty's pride

After the shameful scenes in Brive, the spotlight falls

on the Lions full back as he leads his team into battle

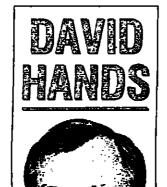
olour co-ordinators would have a field day with Neil Jenkins. Fresh from the training field, his pale face flushed a healthy pink with his exertions, but one look at the sandy eyebrows and the ginger hair and there would be a shake of the head — the two simply do not go together.

That day in Durban, Jenkins's face was white, drained. He looked so awful his parents asked if he was ill. It was the day last June that the British Isles were preparing to meet South Africa, one up in the series and history's finger beckoning. "I'd never felt like that before a game," he said. "But when I got out into the atmosphere of King's Park. the crowd singing Bread of Heaven and that first kick went over, sweet as a nut, from near halfway - I can't imagine anything better than to win with the Lions, unless you can win another series with them."

Sport builds you up, it lets you down. Three months ago Jenkins was the full back whose unerring kicks earned the Lions a famous 18-15 win. Now he is the captain and fly half of a Pontypridd team upon whom the censorious eye of the rugby world, and many outside the sport, has fallen -Ponty, the homespun club fined this week after an afternoon and a night of violence in Brive that stained the reputation of the sport.

Weishman and Frenchman meet again at Sardis Road this afternoon in the return match in the Heineken Cup. each of them knowing they can afford no repetition - literally in the case of Pontypridd, who have limited financial resources but whose fame rests, in a sense. on what they have not. They have not the wealth, the talented overseas players, the string of internationals but despite that, league and cup honours are theirs.

These are the Welsh champions and proud to be so. But no more proud than the folk in the streets of the town at the



mouth of the Rhondda Valley are of Jenkins, one of their own who has gone out into the world, has played 50 times for Wales and has triumphed in that most unforgiving of rugby atmospheres. South Africa. That pride that togetherness. is part of the reason for the

enkins, 26. from Llantwit Fardre ("Just over the hill"), the only son of a scrap-metal dealer, struggled to put it into words: "What happened in Brive was very disappointing. It's never happened to us before and I hope to God it never does again. But what's gone has gone. Our fans who were out there know what happened they were spat upon, coins thrown at them, one of our boys came down the stand waving a Ponty flag and a Frenchman snatched it from him, broke the pole in half and

handed it back." Pontypridd lost by a single point and found the accusations flying thick and fast when tempers boiled over in a bar later that night. Players and supporters became embroiled and the French legal investigation into the brawl in which the France internationals were injured goes on. Jenkins acknowledges that his club could have been thrown out of the competition, that discipline above all else must be the watchword today.

"We're the type of side that enjoys each other's company after the game," he said. "We're a close side, we've grown up together as a squad, we want to do well together." It is the bonding of a small community for whom rugby represents so much, both historically and in the modern, professional world in which. every day, administrators learn that the old, amateur ways really have departed.

o when Dale Mc-Intosh, the Pontypridd No 8, found himself set upon during the game by five Frenchmen, his mates waded in. "We didn't go there to let ourselves be walked over," Jenkins said. The reverse of that coin is McIntosh and Jenkins, both employed by Just Rentals, sponsors of the club over the past seven years, making a sixhour journey to the bedside of a youngster in hospital to sit with him and talk rughy.

Jenkins is part of the fabric of Welsh valley society. He was the rugby-mad kid playing five-a-side games on the local pitch ('We're Wales tonight and I'm Jonathan Davies"). Jenkins was 13 when Davies made his international debut; 12 years later Davies played his last game for Wales at No 10 with Jenkins behind him at No 15. School and Jenkins parted

company at 15: "I was never a big fan of school and it's something I regret now because it would have been nice to have something to fall back on. I'm just so lucky to have had the rugby - when the letter arrived from the Lions, I had a lump in my throat. When I got back home from South Africa there were banners and balloons in the streets, all over my house. It



Jenkins, the Pontypridd captain, realises the responsibility his team have to bear today

"If I hadn't been good at sport, I suppose I'd have been with my friends, in and out of work, down the pub or at the snooker. 1'd probably have been struggling. But sport has brought me through," Capped at 19. Jenkins was on the dole having failed. But Just Rentals employed him and people used to ask if he could be the one to go round with the television set, because Jenkins had played for Wales.

Now he has the security of a ob, of a generous contract with Pontypridd and with the Welsh Rugby Union "It would be nice to finish with a few thousand pounds behind you, perhaps with the mort-gage paid off," he said. He and Catherine, his girlfriend of the past seven years, hope to marry next year when he must also renegotiate his club contract and listen once more to the siren voices of rich English clubs who would like to em-

ploy Wales's leading points-

"You have to look after yourself and maybe it will be time to move on." Jenkins, the one-club man, said. "But I don't want to leave Pontypridd, my friends, my family. When I finish I'd like to put something back into the game, maybe as a coach, maybe team manager. Maybe," he says, a touch wistfully, "they can come up with a contract that will keep me here for life."

under scrutiny By David Hands, Rugby correspondent AFTER the events of the past bay for a Pontypridd victory against the holders, whose reluctance to play the game fortnight, the directors of European Rugby Cup Ltd (ERC). organiser of the Heineken Cup, will wipe their brows with relief if they can get through this weekend without incident. They will be among the full house at Sardis Road this afternoon to

Cup returns put

see if Pontypridd and Brive can keep their minds on rugby, while tomorrow they move on to Stradey Park to watch Llanelli take on Pau.

The threat of financial punishment hangs over the Uanelli game, after their violent clash in Pau a fortnight ago. The ERC board meets on Monday to decide whether sanctions are necessary and they will also pronounce on Dale McIntosh, the Pontypridd No 8 charged with bringing the game into disrepute after being sent off against Brive.

They have already dealt with Tony Rees, the Cardiff lock, cited by Harlequins for a stamping incident involving Gareth Llewellyn last Sunday. Rees has been suspended for 90 days — a month longer than the minimum sentence for his offence. It will be some consolation for Cardiff that Robert Howley returns for his first game at scrum half since disfocating a shoulder against Natal during the British Isles' tour of South Africa.

But the eyes of the game will be on Sardis Road, where a capacity crowd of 8,000 will

has simmered since the aftermatch brawl in a Brive bar that earned rugby so much odium. That brawl still keeps Philippe Carbonneau out of the XV and Christophe Lamaison among the replacements while 11, possibly 12 if Phil John passes a fitness test, of the Pontypridd players who lost 32-31 in injury time resume the contest.

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"It's make-or-break for us, Neil Jenkins, the Pontypridd captain, said. "We want an open, fair game of rugby. We realise the importance of the occasion - discipline will be the word at the top of the agenda." Defeat will surely keep the Welsh champions among the tournament's alsorans and, if Cardiff fail in Cork and Swansea do not rediscover some form, Wales might have no representative in the quarter-finals.

By contrast England, with Il wins out of 12 starts against eight by French clubs, occupy pole position in four pools and Leicester have the opportunity to make up for that one defeat by beating Leinster at Welford Road.

☐ Australia, who play England at Twickenham on November 15, have been forced by injury to omit six leading players from their tour party. Jason Little and Matthew Burke are among the



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EMB return for cased between 1 - 11 Oct. 1997. Passenger tabes.

and secturity changes are not trebuiled. Limited availability Other resulctions apply

Smith profits from trading places request at Castleford on the same day By CHRISTOPHER IRVINE



Smith's career has taken off with Wigan

WHEN a player steps into the shoes of a rughy league legend, comparisons inevitably follow. Tony Smith, Shaun

Edwards's replacement at Wigan. cannot have expected an easy ride and when he travels to Old Trafford for the Stones Premiership final against St Helens tomorrow, he will have more than a little in common with another celebrated interloper. For Smith, read Sheringham, for Edwards, Cantona. However, in five months at Wigan.

Smith has leapfrogged Edwards and Bobbie Goulding as prime candidate for the Great Britain No 7 position against Australia in the British Gas series this autumn. It has been an instructive and productive period for someone destined to play second or third fiddle at international level while he remained loyal to Castleford, the club he supported from hoyhood. Smith, 27, submitted his transfer

that Edwards asked to leave Central Park. "It wasn't that I was being tapped up by another club. I needed the challenge," Smith said. "Within a week, I was signing for Wigan and 24 hours later playing in a home derby match against St Helens. Until then, I didn't appreciate what being beaten by Saints meant to Wigan.

The flip side to that initial disappointment was a remarkable 65-12 victory at St Helens in the return Super League match, Wigan's outstanding performance of the season. To those who saw his predecessor as irreplaceable. Smith has regularly provided some eloquent answer

"I'd be lying if I said that Shaun's legendary status wasn't at the back of my mind when I joined. There's a world of difference between us. He's a chief organiser and a player who sits and waits for the right opportunity, whereas I'm looking to engineer things and be involved at every opportunity. I'd like to think that right now I'm the top scrum half. The way I'm enjoying my rugby, I certainly feel the best." With Goulding suspended from the

St Helens side, Smith has the chance at Old Trafford to cement his status. He plays opposite Sean Long, with whom he had a brief half-back partnership at Wigan, before Long moved to St Helens via Widnes. No one need remind Smith of the importance of adding to his one Yorkshire Cup winner's medal in 1988, set alongside Edwards's 39 medals with Wigan. The first season Edwards signed for

Wigan, 1983-84, was the last that Wigan failed to lift a trophy. It is that pressure that Smith is getting used to. In the important midfield triangle of half back and loose forward. Wigan have the perfect combination in Smith's creative endeavour, Henry Paul's flashes of genius outside him. and Andy Farrell's complementary kicking game. Smith and Farrell have become such a productive combination that there is speculation about switching Farrell, the Britain captain, alongside him at stand-off for the

forthcoming international series.

Smith's talents had become buried in a struggling Castleford outfit. He was understudy to Goulding in New Zealand last year and only broke into the England side for the losing 1995 World Cup final against Australia at standf, his least preferred position.

When Eric Hughes | the Wigan coach) signed me, I insisted I wanted the more direct involvement at scrum half," he said. "People kept saying Shaun Edwards this and Shaun Edwards that, but when I won man of the match against him in the London game at Central Park, I think I proved that, different though I am, I can do some worthwhile things myself." Beating St Helens tomorrow would offer no one greater pleasure.

Race 1: KING SOUND (Trained by J Gosden)

cover if giving Dettori a winning start. Race 2: RUSSIAN REVIVAL (L'Gosden)

RETURN OF DETTORI'S MAGNIFICENT SEVEN?

Has not yet achieved the form to win this, but lightly raced and open has not yet activated the routin to will the bookmakers running for to plenty of improvement. Would send the bookmakers running for

Put up career-best performance when beating Hidden Meadow at Newbury nine days ago. Has plenty of pace, so should have no problems with today's furlong shorter trip. Major chance.

season. Won the Queen Arme Stalies here before returning to America season. Won the Queen Arme Stalies here before returning to America for the Artington Million, where he failed to stay. Each way change

For the Artington Million, where his raised of the Artington Million, where his raised of the Race 4: TUMBE EWEED RIDGE (B Mechan)

A late, late booking for Dettor but no forlow hope, flas shown consistently good form in the top handkeaps this season, winning the Bunbury Cup at Newmarket in July-Linsonar by being held up the Bunbury Cup at Newmarket in July-Linsonar by being held up the a slowly run race when fourth at Spokehood sat time, but the guaranteed the strong pase he seeds today.

Race S: NOISETTE (I Gosden)

Slightly disappointing at Longage Ber time, his can be forgiven.

Slightly disappointing at Longage Ber time, his can be forgiven.

Slightly disappointing at Longage Ber time, his can be forgiven.

Newmarket win reads well and the late may return to form deep that as she stumbed leading the state may return to form deep that the same state of the sta

Race 3: ALLIED FORCES (S bin Sureor)
Showed high-class form when trained in the United States last

Race 4: TUMBLEWEED RIDGE (B Mechan)

Revoque ready to solve Ascot puzzle

By Richard Evans, racing correspondent

IN THE never ending battle waged in the betting ring, the punter does not enjoy many advantages against the old enemy — save one. While bookmakers have to chalk up odds for every race, backers are not obliged to take advantage of them.

Over a weekend when there is a splendid array of top-class racing - and no shortage of betting opportunities - one of racing's most relevant truisms should be borne in mind when contemplating the Queen Elizabeth II Stakes, the feature race of the Ascot Festival.

This afternoon's race, which traditionally determines who is Europe's top miler, is a nightmare for form students because of the uncertainty over which horses are capable of reproducing their best form. At least half of the field is returning to top company after an enforced absence. because of injuries, niggles or

Will Entrepreneur be back to his best after a 112-day absence caused by a pulled hamstring suffered when he disappointed in the Derby? The connections of the 2,000 Guinėas winner have hardly been exuding confidence in the

run up to the race. Even if the Michael Stoute-

Timekeeper's top rating: 2.00 ROMANOV.

DRAW: 5F-1M STR, LOW NUMBERS BEST

2.00 CUMBERLAND LODGE STAKES

(Group III: £32,150: 1m 4I) (8 runners)

2.35 racal diadem stakes

(Group II: £59,430: 6f) (16 runners)

2.00 Poseidor

3,20 Air Express

2.35 Dazzie

GOING: GOOD

he confirm Newmarket running with Revoque, considered by some to have been unlucky in the Guineas? Peter

Chapple-Hyam's runner showed his wellbeing when returning from a long absence to beat Bahhare at Doncaster 15 days ago. If they are both back to their best, is that form good enough

in a year when no three-yearold has beaten the older horses in a group one race beyond a sprint distance? And if they are both a shade ring rusty. which of the "super seconds" that line up today can take The answer to the puzzle

centres on Entrepreneur. If he is in the form he showed when winning a fast-run Guineas, look no further for the winner. Should he disappoint, Allied Forces, a top group two horse, will be hard to keep out of the frame, but may have to give best to Revoga

Bijou D'Inde, winner of the St James's Palace Stakes here last year, ran better than his finishing position indicated in France recently. The Mark Johnston-trained four-yearold is the only confirmed frontrunner in the field and an uncontested lead should see him run particularly well. Air

ASCOTTODAY:

3,50 WAYPOINT (nap)

TOTE JACKPOT MEETING

BBC1

4.30 Noisette

5.35 Sea Victor

5.00 Astrapi

trained colt is 100 per cent, can Express has each-way claims, but the rest do not look good Not for the first time on a

showpiece occasion, some of the best bets may be found away from the gaze of the television cameras - notably at Catterick. Since he took over from Jeremy Tree at Beckhampton in 1990, Roger Charlton has sent only five runners to the Yorkshire track. Three have won and the other two were placed, so Silver Whiri is a most interesting entry for the John Morgan-Yorkshire Evening Post Handicap (3.10).

After a pleasing debut at Salisbury, the Silver Hawk filly disappointed over today's trip at Leicester, but was subsequently found to be ill. After a break, she ran well enough over an inadequate mile at Sandown before catching the eye in a competitive Newbury handicap nine days ago. With the excellent Jimmy Fortune booked to ride, she can start to repay her \$125,000 yearling fee.

The second, fourth and fifth behind Mudeer in a Leicester maiden have all won since, so third-placed Last Christmas looks worth supporting in the Knutsford Maiden Stakes at Haydock (2.30).

3.20 QUEEN ELIZABETH II STAKES

3.55 TOTE FESTIVAL HANDICAP

Jano handicae: Russian Music 9-18. Ures Maior 7-6

(£50,005; 7f) (25 runners)

Affect Forces 4 M 6 th to Martin an 1 Mm Artington group 1 stakes (good to soil). Centre Stalls 3 M 3 rd to Russian Revival in 7 Newbory listed stakes (good to fam). Entrepreneur 8 M 4th to Benay The Dip in 1 Mm Enson Derby (good) Fathful Son beat Martin 1 Mm Donaster stakes (good). Rebecca Starp 7 M 7th to Spinning World in 1 m Longchamp group 1 (good) with Billou D'Inde (11b better) 151 8th

FAITHFUL SON, unbeaten on galloping tracks, can spring a surprise

ENTIRE 6-1 No Sitras, 7-1 Dancing Image, 10-1 Salis, 12-1 Neuresi, Crumpton Hill, Waypood, Fazansy Lass, 14-1 others.

1996; DECORATED HERO 4-9-13 L Delton (7-1) J Gosden 26 rao

Russian Music best Hawait 591 in im Doncasier handicap (good to with Jo Mail (5th better oft) 456 in im Doncasier handicap (good to with Jo Mail (5th better oft) 456 in Tregaron 121 8th to Hidden Meadow in 77 York Risked stakes (good). Turnbloweed Ridge 254 4th to Law Commission in 77 Goodwood handicap (good) with Specifical (1th worse oft) 3341 5th and Ursa Major (11th better oft) 3341 7th Neuwest 55 6th to Russian Revival in 71 Newbury hasted stakes (77, good to firm) with Omaha City (3th worse oft) 161 10th. Dancing Image 3341 4th to Initinate in minit [150] of the control of the c



Revoque, left, is fancied for the Queen Elizabeth II Stakes at Ascot today

Faraway Lass well suited by conditions

BBC1 2.00: Fahris arguably boasts the best form judged on his all-the-way victory at Goodwood under Ray Cochrane last time. However, that victory, in a slowly-run race. owed much to jockeyship and today's trip may not suit. Ben Hanbury's runner appeared not to stay the distance in the Derby when finishing sixth. Romanov was third at Epsom and, despite a disappointing run in France next time. Peter

Chapple-Hyam's colt bounced back to his best when winning a group three race at Haydock seven weeks ago (Fahris third). The mercurial Maylane goes from strength to strength and looks the main threat. 2.35: July Cup winners rare-

ly run in this race but Compton Place is out to make up for a disappointing run in the Nunthorpe where trip and ground were against him. However, he will do well to overcome his group one penalty and two runners stand out here. Russian Revival impressed when hardly coming off the bridle to account for Hidden Meadow and Centre Stalls at Newbury nine days ago.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: FARAWAY LASS (3.55 Ascot) Next best: Silver Whirl (3.10 Catterick) Nap: CONSORT

(3.10 Ascot tomorrow) Next best: Mudeer (2.00 Ascot tomorrow)

That was over seven furlongs but Frankie Dettori's possesses sufficent speed to cope with this shorter trip. The worry is the faster ground, which just tips the balance in favour Elnadim. He improved dramatically during the past two months and his listed success at Newmarket last time has been boosted by the second, third and fourth

winning since.

3.55 After two disappointing efforts because of trip and ground, Waypoint has conditions in her favour and a return to Newbury winning form would see Roger Charlton's filly go close.

Dancing Image has been well backed in the ante-post exchanges this week and must go well. Ian Balding's runner did well in listed company at Epsom last time despite looking ill at ease on the track. A fast-run seven furlangs on this stiff track will be ideal. However, I like the look of Faraway Lass. beaten less than a length by Danetime in the Stewards' Cup. She looks well drawn here, unlike last time, and should be suited by seven

furlongs on this track. RICHARD EVANS



RACES THIS WEEKEND

ASCOT TOMORROW

BBC2 2.35: Kilimaniaro was made Derby favourite after routing a previous winner by eight lengths at Sandown. However, conditions will be much faster here. Craigsteel

and Teapot Row will both 20 well over this extra furlong, but the key to this may be the Doncaster maiden in which City Honours pounced on Prolix. The latter might have held on if ridden more assertively, but City Honours was very green and only woke up inside the final furlong. Considered Manton's best prospect since Rodrigo De Triano, he can improve significantly.

3.10: Sweet Wilhelmina was sent for home too soon at Newbury last week and, ridden more patiently here. must figure prominently again. Frankie Dettori perseveres with For Your Eyes Only, though unable to settle him when heavily backed at Doncaster last time - a race in which Cashmere Lady barely came off the bridle. lucklessly surrounded by a wall of horses. She got stuck in the mud on her previous start, but at Redcar in August she had relished a strong pace to quicken decisively under a confident ride. Consort is interesting, having shaped well when set a couple of inadequate tests. after a late reappearance.

3.50: Midnight Line confirmed herself as tough as she is gifted when winning the May Hill Stakes, looking an ideal type for this, but Kieren Fallon prefers her stablemate, Jibe, who has been exciting workwatchers. From the remarkable family of Warning and Command-er In Chief, she showed the benefit of her debut to saunter home in a Lingfield maiden. The danger may be Exclusive, a half-sister to Entrepreneur.

4.25: Honourable is a tough sort and would be a legitimate fancy on easier ground. But the potential blot on the handicap is Ridaryma, who had an unusual prep-race -as pacemaker in the Prix Vermeille. Her trainer excels in big handicaps, and she is 3lb better off with Arctic Owl despite beating him a neck at Kempton. Song Of Freedom. Singspiel's half-brother, has been expensive to follow, but has excuses for two recent defeats (poor luck in running and soft ground).

CHRIS McGrath

CHINE TO OUR PACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 G000 TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G	5) (Mrs D Robotson) B Hall 9-10-0 _ 8 We
Racecard number Doar in brackets, Se-figure form (F – fell F – pullet up U – unsceped nate, B – brought down S – signed up B – refused, D – disqualified), Horse's name Days stace last outling, J & jamps, F & Bat. (B – blinkers V – wisor. H – hood E – Eyestheld, G – course fromer. D – distance witner, CD –	course and distance women is lavourate in latest race). Geing on which won (F — linn, good to linn hard. S — soll, good to solt, heavin. Owner I raine: Age and weight. Rider plus any Timelsheeper's speed raining.
4 30 page 100 page 110 page 11	

(Listed race: £18,137: 1m str) (13 numers)	
501 (13) 0022300 LINCONDITIONAL LOVE 16 (C.F.) (Mrs. H Corroy) M Johnston 4-9-7 J Wester	r 100
502 (9) 3-32002 DANCING DROP 14 (F.G.) (M Suhari) R Hannon 3-9-4	
503 (11) 0-10100 NORSETTE 18 (BF.CD.F.G) (Sheith Mahammed) J Graden 3-9-3 1. Depto	
504 (3) 1335 KENNIST 45 (5) (Dr U Fasanotti) L Curran 3-9-0 K Darle	
505 (B) 46-2650 TSARNISTA 77 (G) (I Stewart-Brown) J Durston 4-8-11 M Robert	s 97
506 (7) 0131012 QUEENS CONSUL 14 (D.F.G.S) (Mass H Dawson) B Richard 7-8-3 . M Feeta	113
507 (1) 0330515 POMONA 14 (O.F.G) (Stryline Racing Ltd) P Malon 4-8-8	
508 (4) 5061035 DIVINA LUNA 41 (D.F.G) (D Dear) J Hills 4.8-7	
509 (3) 1-22004 PRIENA 16 (B.BF.F) (Cuedra Africa) D Lodes 3-8-4	
510 (12) 101 PRISH LIGHT 10 (D.F.S.) (Onevery Park Stud) M Shoute 3-3-4 T Own	
511 (5) 4211430 WD0008ECK 33 (F.S) (8 Farr) J Glover 3-8-3	
512 (6) 1311550 MARA RIVER 28 (D.F.G) (N Harns) I Balding 3-8-3 Martin Days	
513 (10) 40-6060 BLANE WATER 16 (6) (C T Record Ltd.) J Fantaine 3-6-3 . T Sprain	
BETTING: 9-2 Moiseille, 11-2 Irish Light, 13-2 Gueens Concad. 7-1 Kenmast, 8-1 Denoing Drop. 10-1 et	1075
1996: FATEFULLY 3-9-0 L Delton (7-4 lav) 5 bm Sunton 19 zzn	

	1996: FATEFULLY 3-9-0 L Delton (7-4 lav) 5 trin Surtor 19 zzn				
5.	00	BLUE	SEAL CONDITIONS STAKES (2-Y-O: £11,964: 6i) (8 runne	#S)	
681	113	61	POLY BLUE ? (D.F) (Sheet & Roll Conventors Ltd) Miss G halleston 8-11 . I Ocum	Title	
602	(8)		ASTRAPI (A Constatodout) M Stoute 8-8	•	
603	(4)	6	ATUF 17 (SF) (Godolphini) S but Surour 8-8 L Destori	85+	
604	[5]		MARKE LOUP 10 (R Smith) L Current 8-8		
605	161	2	MUCI 10 (G Strawfortdge) J Gorsten 8-8	81	
606	(3)		SHFOUG (H Salem) 8 Halb 8-8 M Halb	-	
667	(2)		TABASCO (M. Mayers) M. Chargeon BB M. J. Kimane	-	
608	m	6	WERDA 22 (B Voak) C Antain 8-8	75	
BETTI	NG: 3-1	Aut. 7.	2 Astrapi. 4-1 Marte Loup, 9-2 Poly Blue, 6-1 NRii, 18-1 Shbug, 14-1 others		
			1996: LOCHANGEL 8-8 i. Delton (5-4 n lav) I Baiding 5 rag		

1000's Consented on Colonia (2-4 is est a beging a sign	
5.35 MAGNIFICENT SEVEN GORDON CARTER HANDICAP (E14,590: 2m 45yd) (14 runners)	

14	1,590	3: 2m 4:	Syd) (14 numers)	
1	(1)	-054021	RENZO 6 (F,G) (K Buchanan) Mrs A Perret 4-9-10	93
2	(21)	04-0010	WHETECHAPEL 84 (C.G.S) (The Queen) Lord Huntmodon 9-9-6 K Fallon	82
3	(3)	0410230	STAR RAGE 9 (D.F.G) (J Abeli) M Johnston 7-9-6	81
4			570RY LINE 28 (C.S.) (Story Line Parlmership) D Arbuttanot 4-9-4 T Osum	94
5	(7)	0-142	SHAHRUR 104J (S) (Mrs E kerren) & L Moore 4-8-13	-
6	(9)	2-46552	SEA VICTOR 6 (BF,D,F,G) (J Abeli) J.L Harris 5-8-12	94
7	dii	-421244	THORNBY PARK 35 (5) (Appleby Lodge Stud) J Dunton 3-8-12 T Sprake	95
8	(12)	4-5051	ASEUR 19 (V,G) (Shelid Mohammed) J Gosden 4-8-12 L Detton	95
ē	(14)	420260	PIKE CREEK 17 (P) (R & Exors Late E Hischins) Baiding 4-8-8 Martin Duryer	स्टब्बे
Ö	(5)	4200122	GALAPINO 10 (F) (Grendale Plans Ltd) Miss G kelleway 4-8-7 , R Mullen (5)	91
ī			TAWAFEK 52 (F) (T Shepherd) 5 Day 4-8-6 R Pertam	
	141	0033115		97
3	rio,	0153000	SHINNIG DANCER 45 (D.F.G) (Laternaha Partnership) S Dove 5-7-12 J Quern	
4	(8)	AGD.	HE KNOWS THE RULES 12J (J Henerood) R Buckler 5-7-10 N Adams	104
-				
H	iju. ?		9-2 Mornby Park, 7-1 Renzo, 8-1 Gatapario, Princess Topaz, 9-1 Whitechapel, 12-1 o	No.
		1	896: RUIYAMA CREST 4-9-10 Deton (2-1 by) M Strate 18 cm	

		COUR	SE S	PECIALISTS	3		
RAINERS	Wins	Ans	*	JOCKEYS	Womers	Rudes	
ban Sumor	15	54	27 8	M Kinane	27	160	169
Wagg	11	51	216	L Deljon	27 37	236	155
Alshasi	17	94	18.1	1 Culm	29	300	14 5
Ourless	27	153	176	() Pesiler	5	36	139
rs J Cecal	4	25	160	J Rend	28	340	117

| (6) 22-2010 | COMPTION PLACE 37 (BF.D.F.G) (Dute of Descripting) J Toller 3-9-4 | Signature 105 (P) 01100-6 | Daving Descripting 146 (B.D.F.G.S) (Daring Descripting) J Toller 3-9-4 | Signature 105 (P) 01100-6 | Daving Descripting 146 (B.D.F.G.S) (Daring Descripting 140 (P) 01100-6 | Daving Descripting 14

1996: WALL STREET 3-8-6 L Destort (2-1 lav) S bin Surcor 7 ran

Salmon Ladder 31 2nd to Papering in 1m3/ San Siro group W stakes (good). Kingfisher Mei 2341 3rd to Stowaray in 13/m York group il stakes. (good). Fativits best Desert Story 61 in group it stakes (good). Romanov best German Mi in 1m2/s/ Haydock group it stakes (good to 6mm) with Fahrts (levels) ½1 3rd. King Sound best Haltarra neck in 1m3/s/t Windsor stakes (good to 6mm) Poseidon 131 8th to Stiver Patriarch in group I stakes at Doncaster (1m 61 132yd, good to 6mm)

KONGERSHER MILL has the form to swittly threat hopes of a Frankie Dettori repeat

1996: DIFFIDENT 4-9-0 L DeSon (12-1) S big Surpor 12 tan Cretarn Gift 8/41 Dott to Wildruck Wil 3rd to Dashing Blue in 5/41 Doncaster handicap (good to firm) Rambling Bear 3/41 5th to Eveningperformance or 51 Newbury listed states (good to firm) Rambling Bear 3/41 5th to Eveningperformance or 51 Newbury listed states (good to firm) with Crytaro's Lad (levels) 11/1 3/th russian Revival beal Hidden Meadow 4/1 or 71 Newbury listed states (good to firm) with Muchea (11b worse off) 101 8th. Einadim beat Bollin Joanne 1/41 or 61 Newmarket listed states (good). Tomba 1/41 2rd to Royal Applause in 61 Haydick group I states (good to soft) with Averif (levels) 3/4 https://doi.org/10.110/10.

ASCOT TOMORROW

ELNADIM is improving last and can justify a step up in class

7	THUNDERER			
2.00 Mudeer	3.50 Jibe			
2.00 Mudeer 2.35 Muhtathir 3.10 Cashmere Lady	4,25 ELBAAHA (nap) 5,00 Blessingindisguise			
3.10 Cashmere Lady	5.35 Graceful Lass			
Timekeeper's top rating: 5.35	5 PUCE.			

2.	00	SUND	AY CONDITIONS STAKES (2-1	7-0: £12,022: 71) (7 runners)
101	(3)	1	ABSOLUTLY SPARKLIN 25 (D.S) (LI Date	
102	(3)	•	CASING KING 17 (D.G) (R Sample) P Ch	Seed 1 Seed 1
103	Ø	1	MUDEER 19 (O,F) (Godeleton) S ben Sura	or9-0 . LDetton 🗗
101	(2)	-	GHALL (S (Culted) 1 Durdon 8-11	TOMOR
105	闹		PEGNITZ (8 Vsal) C Ertisen 8-11	
106	(A)	3	SPERGARZAR 34 (A Schorou) Li Sabre	
107	(Si	-	ISZOG (Custom Racing) J Long 8-6	
BETT	NG: 5-4	Modes,	2-1 Absolute Spatio, 4-1 Cares lang, 14-1 1996: KAHAL 5-11 A Hills (5-2) E.	Glock Shorpaccas, 25-1 Pegada 66-1 USA

2.	35	GTEC	H HOYAL LODGE STAKES	BBC	2
(Groi	p∦:i	2-Y-0:	£74,028: 1m md) (8 runners)		
.0t	(8)	112	ALMRITAWAKEL 16 (BF,G,S) (Godolphn) S but Surpor 8-11	. L Detroit	125
. 112	(1)		CITY HONOURS 15 (D.F.) (R Sangster) P Ctapple-Hyam 8-11		121
203	(6)	21	CRANGSTREEL 82 (G) (See Classed Willer) H Gesta 8-11	K.Fadign	118
204	(2)	41	KILIMANUARO 29 (0,5) (M Taber, Mrs Magnet) M Stoute 8-11	. M J Kinane	124
205	n	6112	MULETTATHER 14 (G.S.) (H al-Maktourn) J Garaten 8-11	RHS19.	188
206	(3)	· 22	PROLEX 16 (K Abdulla) 3 Halls 8-11	M HBs	118
207	(3)	124	SHAPP PLAY 30 (G) (Mas I Bod) 16 Johnston 8-11	B Holland	124
208	(A)		TEAPOT ROW 18 (F.G) (Date of Devonstore) J Toller 8-11		131

1996 BENNY THE OTP 8-11 W R Swinburn (9-4 bar) J Gosdon 8 can



M. FOCUS

Almutawakel 11 2nd to Alboocian in 1m histed Goodwood states (good) City Homours bed Profix (fevels) ship in 1m Doncaster marken good to firm) Crangstee bed Victory Note 2*11 marken good (Nifimanitaro bed Alcuhai 3 m 1m Sandown states (cold) Muthathir 2*11 and Empire in 1m group ill Longsteining states (soft) Teapot Row beat Guiland neck in 71 states (good to him)

TUMBLEWEED RIDGE is fairly treated and may give Depton fains a lift

MUNTATHIR can well on France and is preferred to Krilmanjaro								
3.10 THE MAIL ON SUNDAY MILE FINAL (Handicap: \$29.570: 1m str) (23 numers)	2							
173 0066221	100 109 112 98 111 99 105 112 107 110 110 1112 101 91 96							
22 119 0-04000 PRESS ON MICKY 72 (5) (2.927 Strategy) If the 2.7-10 have Wreste IN	101 90							
Long handicap, Anonym 7-8, Press On 1924y 7-8, Europe With Hooves 7-0	90							
BETTING, 6-1 Specializar, 7-1 For Year Eyes, DNA, 6-7 La Michael, Sweet Willhelmung, 9-1 Law Commis 10-1 Therheat Falls, 17-1 others	BETTATO, 6-1 Speculator, 7-1 For Year Spec Chin 6-7 in Marieta, Sweet Wilhelmann 9-1 Law Commission							

1998; AMPAK ALESS 4-19-0 (F. Total (SI)-1); 8 Harbury 25 cm. FORM FOCUS

| Special Commission has Description of the Continued hardson the proof. La Modeste had Parol Jurgle 2:51 in 1rs Bath hardson that the provider 1741 2nd to From De Cool in 1rm 1976 (parol handson (good) with Present Solution (19 were c. 5) 35-1 th and Commission (40 house all) 44-1 5th. Pales 2741 6th to Intervalon in 174m Domester handson good to Irm) with Rebel County (2th werse off) 221 15th. Sweet Witherman next 2nd in Prince Of Denat to 1rm Newborn handson good to Irm) with La Modeste (2th better off) 191 3rd. Broundfoots Tormod (4th better off) 3741 5th. Therman (4th better off) 41 7th. Mo-Addab (7th better off) 151 16th

SWEET WILHELMINA can confirm Newtony superiority over La Modeste							
3.50 FILLIES MILE (Group I: 2-Y-0: £92,950: 1m md) (8 runners)							
407 (5) 22 ALISMART 37 (and theremost is State 8-10 Toleton 102 402 (6) 1 DOCUMENT 88 (6) Cherica Park Chail Michael 8-10 Michael 105 403 (1) 210 EMPET 10 STATE 18 (6) (Cherica Park Chail Michael 8-10 Michael 105 403 (1) EMPET 10 STATE 18 (6) (1) A Matter 105 Michael 10							
BETTING: 5-2 Miningfil Line: 3-1 Albe: 4-1 Chartes: 5-1 Augment: 10-1 Exclusive Hollow Hore: 14-1 chart: 1998: REAMS OF VERSE 9-13 M J Visine: (5-1) H Cerol & ran							
Afgroment is not 2nd to Midnight Line in 71 Goodwood group B (good to firm) with Fery Brigg 14t last. Enableshe best Cellus Cross. Arrabel on 71 Newbury stakes (soft) Jibo heet Wisse 41 or 71 Langheld marten (good) Midnight Line heet Flawless 161 in 1m Donastier group III (good to firm) with Glorossa (5th worse off) 3151 3rd							

MIDMIGHT LINE can make experience tell against stable companion libe

4.25 TOTE SUNDAY SPECIAL HANDICAP BBC2 (£47,551: 1m 4l) (14 runners) BETTONG: 7-2 Radiayms, 7-1 Roberty Bowl. Song Of Freedom, 8-1 Archi, Onl Homourable, Elbants, 10-1 Bellet Other, Taurel, 12-1 others 1996: BETTER OFFER 4-9-6 M J Kingne (9-1) 6 Harwood 20 ran FORM FOCUS Tautan's Metody 211 4th to Further Fight in 1m 5%1 Chester handicap (soft) Bedar Office 211 14th to Far Ahead in 1m 5%1 York handicap (soft) Bedar Office 211 14th to Far Ahead in 1m 5%1 York handicap (good) with Taufan's Metody (3th worse off) 311 15th and Write Conquer (5th worse off) 461 19th Rokety Bowl heal Tylesyrox (2th teller off) 1%1 in 1%m Newtoury Sake; (good to firm) Ancial Chunder 61 3rd to Lord Jim in 1%m Salzhury Sake; (good to firm) Rudalyma 8¼1 6th to Dueen Maud in 1%m group 1 Longchamp stales; (colf) Arctic Dwil dead-heated with Honoturable (4th better off) in 1m 3%1 York handicap (soft) Taunt best Such Boldness 4t in 1%m Epsom maden (good to zoft), Song Of Freedom 2kt 5th to Installation in 1%m Doncacter handicap (good to firm) Ethapha 11.4 2nd to Dambesque in 1%m Doncacter handicap (good) with Remaad) Sur (1fb better off) 5½/ 6th. TAUMT, a good winner at Epsom, gets the vote over Honourable 5.00 CLIVEDEN RUINART CHAMPAGNE RATED HANDICAP (£15,564; 5f) (12 runners) 661 (8) 1061650 TEDBURROW 8 (D.F.S) (F Davies) E Alston 5-9-7 602 (9) 155-163 SUPERIOR PREMIUM 8 (I) St (1 Paragra) R Face.

609 (17) 1349820 SMARP HAT 8 (F.S.S) Li Couch) R Humon 3-5-8. In Principle (3) 100 610 13) 5123030 TWICE AS SWARP IS (D.F.O) Formatal herbeit P Humo 5-8-7 C Loudier (5) 110 611 (4) 1011400 SONOGER ROSE US (R.D.F.G) (Solder & Mistan M. Standard 5-7 D Sweezer (5) 111 617 12) 0820510 RUDO'S PET 8 (B.D.G.S) (Broadquier Partiership) R Hanson 3-8-6 J Rose 117 Long bandlargue benden Roce 6-5 Rudo's Pet 8 (B.D.G.S) (Broadquier Partiership) R Hanson 3-8-6 J Rose 117 Long bandlargue benden Roce 6-5 Rudo's Pet 8 (B.D.G.S) (Broadquier As Shap, 8-1 Terborrow, Creaded Avesure, Sharp Hat, Rudo's Pet, 10-1 others 11996; BOLSHOR 4-8-7 Emma O Gomman (11-1) J Bensy 17 tan
5.35 HARVEST STAKES (Listed race: £24,168: 1m 4f) (6 runners)
1 (*) 1-5/233 PUCE 18 (D.C) /Fiscels Stud (vd) L Curroni 4-9-0 L Defini [33] 2 (4) -0/2000 ATTITIE 39 (VF) IR Protect C Britan 3-8-6 M Roberts 3 (*) 3-2413 CORETTA 34 (C) (G Leight L Coursi 3-8-6 L Stude 3-8-6 J Roberts 4 (5) 3-2421 DELLIAN 25 (VS) Projected Recompilered Racing Link M Stoke 3-8-6 J Roberts 5 (3) 5-62116 GRACETIL LASS 38 (D.F.S) (A Budgets) D Loder 3-8-6 T Online 6 (6) 41-25 TEMPTING PROSPECT 101 (S) (The Quero) Leid Huntingdon 3-8-6 K Darley 93 861TRIG. 2-1 Dekkin, 3-1 Proc., 4-1 Gazetal Lass 6-1 Alpha 8-1 Careta. 10 1 Tempting Procpect 1896: ALTAMURRA 3-6-9 L Detain (1) 27 J Gasetal 10 Tax
TOMORROW'S OTHER MEETINGS: Nottingham (first race, 3 00), Brighton (2.30).

RACING NEXT WEEK

MONDAY: Bath (first race, 2.00), Hamilton Park (2.20), Exeler (2.10). TUESDAY: Newmarket (C4, 1.30), Wolverhampton (AW, 2.25), Sedge-field (2.15)

WEDNESDAY: Brighton (2.20), Newcastle (2.10), Salisbury (2.00) THURSDAY: Newmarket (CA, 1.30), Horeland (1.45), Taunton (2.15) FRIDAY: Newmarket (C4. 2.05), Lingfield Park (1.55), Hexham (2.15). SATURDAY: Newmarket (C4, 1 50), Notingham (2 15), Wolverhampton (AW, 7 00), Chepstow (BBC, 2 05), Ultoweler (2 30)

SUNDAY: Leicester (2.30), Kelso (2.20), Wincanton (2.10). Flat meetings in bold



...

MUCK PARK

charn

A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY.

41

A year after his astonishing feat at Ascot, Frankie Dettori is feeling the pressure to keep up his standards

Charming? Ruthless

Taking

e have all heard enough about the charm of Frankie Dettori. So let us talk instead about his ruthlessness. Yes, the backlash has already set in. And those who wish to attack Dettori can talk about this quality of ruthlessness until they are blue in the face: because it is all true.

"An increasingly surly countenance and tetchy behaviour," according to one report. A jockey, Michael Roberts, the 1992 champion, has been quoted as saying

that Dettori is losing patience with his race riding, going for nonexistent gaps. The pres-sures of adempting to win his third jockeys' champion ship, the pres-sures of his year-old superstar status, is too much for him.

PTEMBER 27 IL

raway Lass Aell Suited

Conditions

FOREST FOR

There he was at Ascot on Monday, doing his PR stuff for the racecourse and the Festival of British Racing: for today is the anniversary of his flying leap, when he took off as a famous jockey and landed as a famous man. He did this by riding all seven winners in an afternoon, one that just happens to be the richest of the racing year. It was a phenomenal occasion, a phenomenal achievement: and Dettori's delight delight-

ed the nation. And not too surly and tetchy on Monday, either: instead distributing several zillion volts of Italianate charm. making jokes, doing the same interview again and again for radio and television, obligingly posing for the photo-opportuniry, riding a donkey in the winner's enclosure, and even managing to perform his trademark flying dismount from the obliging beast. The charm is there, unforced and in bucketloads: and even those hardened to the phenomenon were

won over once again. Which is odd. It is hard for a Flat race jockey to be loved. The top men in the profession are in the main difficult, unquiet men. To the traditional small man's crankiness they add something of the equestrian's traditional arrogance. To be a success means to ride winner after winner after winner: to make your mark

in the profession you must, simply enough, win more races than anyone else. A seller at Catterick, the Derby: one point

Thus your appetite for winning must be insatiable. Add to this the extraordinary physical exertions of the job and the need for permanent self-starving, and you tend to find spikey, sour, difficult individuals. Willie Carson always had a cheerful face: but the maniac's cackle did not speak of a

Dettori has been champion jockey twice. There is no argument: he is ruthless. Part of wanting to win is making other people lose; and a champion jockey must make people lose again and again. If a jockey is not ruthless, he is unemployable. Ruthless champion jockey: a double tautology. People who see only the happy-go-lucky Frankie are simply not concentrating. Dettori is as happygo-lucky as the men who cut diamonds for a

But perhaps one can trace a touch of the Dominic Cork syndrome. Cork seemed born to be a superstar in cricket, the man to follow where Ian Botham led. But he was overwhelmed

by his own achievement: never truly recovered from his hat-trick against West Indies, a performance as newsworthy on its day as Frankie's Magnificent Seven. And it is true that Dettori has found more trouble than usual this season, acquiring in the past month bans of five and then six days for irresponsible riding as he sought too desperately to make up lost ground in the jockeys' championship. It is natural to wonder if the ruthless streak is becoming counterproductive.

There is ample evidence of ruthlessness

living.

in his pedigree, on the side of the sire. His father, Gianfranco Dettori, was champion jockey of Italy 13 times. He once rode six winners on three successive days. He was single-minded to the point of obsession and beyond. His mother left his father when he was aged one.

Dettori padre was to become a kind of



Angel face? Underneath, Dettori is as hard as any champion. Right, the famous leap — "he took off as a famous jockey and landed as a famous man"

gift is that he can pass on that urge for victory to his horses. It makes a kind of sense. Horses are herd animals, and like to establish a dominance hierarchy. A race is a temporary herd, and horses compete to be in front.

give added confidence, added self-belief. talent is that he can switch it on and off. When he's not racing he is very laid back."

John Gosden, for whom Dettori has ridden many winners, praises, above all things, Dettori's intuition. "It works with

self-confidence allows him to make his

ettori's desire to be the dominant person in his group must transmit to the horse: and perhaps, as Cumani suggests, A very competitive person. But his great

horses and with people. Gives him exceptional ability in reading a race." His

own decisions: sometimes to jettison riding instructions completely. That is how he rode the winner of the last of his Magnificent Seven, making all on a horse he was supposed to keep covered up. The most obvious of Dettori's qualities

is balance. His mother, Mara, was a trapeze artist in a circus. It is a fact that pulls a lot into focus: sire a ruthless champion, dam a show-off with perfect balance. His fellow jockey, John Reid, has been

able to take a closer view of him than most. "It comes easy for him," he said, "And that happens, doesn't it, to the odd one in all walks of life. Not many."

Reid places him as one of those rare, once-in-a-lifetime talents, who have colossal natural gifts but also the desire to they perform not only at the limit of their

own ability, but very close to the limit of human ability. Bradman, Pelé, Best, perhaps Tiger Woods. Ruthlessness is something that all

leading athletes require: but they need a sense of balance too. The difference between having a horse relaxed and having him run away is the edge of a razorblade," Dettori said. "You get everything right and that surge of power is indescribable."

The horsey sports are about power. It is the power of the horse, not the power of man over horse, that wins horse races; and every other kind of horsey event. But horses are also about something else: a passing from the exclusively human world into the strange border country that exists between two species of mammal. "The only time I am only happy is on a horse," Dettori once said. "Then I feel free."

HAYDOCK PARK

GOING: GOOD

2.30 Last Christmas, 3.00 Patsy Grimes, 3.35 Saafeya, 4.10 Sharpo Wassi, 4.40 Winsa, 5.15

DRAW: 5F, HIGH BEST

2.30 EBF KNUTSFORD MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-0: £3,583: 7f 30yd) (12 runners) COLLEGE MOUNT M Bushy 9-0 A Cufrane 10
DORARD J Gesden 9-0 G Hind 8

4 OL LARAMANIA 2P Fider 9-0 J F Egap 5

3 LAST CHRISTMAS 18 B Hills 9-0 Paul Eddery 6

6 OS LORD WARFORD 33 G Baldeng 9-0 P Murphy (3) 1

7 6 MUIT D'UR 19 M Johnston 9-0 D Halland 12

3 6 THE BLUES ACADEMY 6 (V) M Johnston 9-0 Dean McKoown 11

2 THE GBME GIBME 50 M Healton Elic 9-0 S Drowne 9

000 CAROLINE'S PET 43 A Balley 8-9 J Bosiny (7) 3

500 MAGGICE 48 R Hollicational 8-9 F Lynch 4

WOSAITA J Dunlop 8-9

16 Gene Genit, 3-1 Last Christman 7-7 Per 10 O'D T PET
virus-ATA J Dunlop 8-9 G Center 7
11-4 The Gene Gonle, 3-4 Las/ Christmas, 7-2 Dorant, 9-2 Wosalta, 13-2 Alcayde, 10-1 Muri O'Or, The Glores Academy, 20-1 offers

3.00 AKZO NOBEL HOLDINGS HANDICAP (£5,732: 51) (7)

2200 PATSY GRIMES 9 (D.F.G.S) J S Moore 7-9-11 P P Marphy (3) 5
2 (5:10 LORD HER ADMRAL 15 (TD.G) M Heaton-Elis 9-9-8 S Drowto 2
3 3201 ANSELLMAN 5 (B.D.F.G.S) J Berry 7-9-8 (Ged _ C Lowther 9)
4 0054 (0R1A 7 (D.F.G.) J Sye 7-9-5 — H Castinus 7
5 32:10 SOURRE CORRES 3 (D.F.G.S) D Chapman 5-9-5 — A Custanus 7
6 0002 SWIMPORD DREAM 9 (D.F.G.) Helentro 4-8 — J Lowe 4
7 5004 GOLD EIGE 9 (f) M Ctemono 3-7-10 — A Mackay 1 3-1 Lord High Adarecti, 7-2 Kiss, 4-1 Ansellman, 6-1 Seynland Dream, 7-1 Patsy Games, Gold Edge, 10-1 Squire Come.

3.35 EBF REPROCOLOR FILLIES HANDICAP

7-2 Annonio, 9-2 Sasteya, 11-2 Yabini El Sultan, 13-2 Grand Solendour My Valendina, 7-1 Ganga. Agony Auni, 8-1 others.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Ascot: 2.35 Swrft Guillver 3.55 Speedball 4.20 Pitera, Haydock Park: 3.35 Apylo Market Rasen: 3.05 Le Grand Gousser, Emily-Jayne Ascot tomorrow. 3.10 Speculator 5.35 Attire.

4.10 AKZO NOBEL PREMIER HANDICAP (3-Y-0: £3,859: 71 30yd) (16) 3-Y-U: £3,039. 11 309-1, 1.0. 1 9061 MLUGNA 11 (D.F.G) R Hollenbead 9-9 ... A could build people 25 (f) M Johnston 9-3 ... M H 3 1906 ALIGHAS 11 (f) W Hem 9-3 ... M H 4 0223 STYLE DANCER 32 (t) F R Whiteler 9-2 ... Dean N 5 3300 AL MASSROOM 11 (f) J W Papie 9-1 ... Dean N 5 2006 Feb

9-2 Steepe Wassi, 11-2 Caribbean Star, 13-2 Alebhas, 7-1 Style Dancer, Carlura, 8-1 Nayona, Al Massoor, 12-1 others

4.40 EBF SALE MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES (2-Y-0: £3,518: 1m 30yd) (8)

M Henry (3) 4

A Cultane 3

A Mackey 6

G Hind 2

D Holland 8

J F Egen 5

W Ryan 1

G Carter 7

WORCESTER

THUNDERER

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM

2.25 BOATHOUSE NOVICES HURDLE

8-15 Regal Absence, 4-1 Lively Encounter, Brownes Hill Led, 33-1 Who Tells Jan.

(£2,921: 2m 7f 110yd) (7)

TRAINERS, 0 Sherwood, 17 entriers from 52 numbers, 32 7%, M Pige 46 horn 153, 30 1%, P Chemings, 3 horn 10, 30 0%, D Michalson, 24 from 84, 28 5%, Miss V Williams, 3 from 17, 17 6%, P Bowen, 9 horn 61, 14 6%

9-4 Winsa, 4-1 Storm River, 9-2 Muhaba, 6-1 Honey Storm, Sahara, 7-1 others

COURSE SPECIALISTS TRANSERS. H Cocil, 21 wavers from 50 runners, 42 0%, W Hagges, 5 from 18, 27 8%; B Hills. 21 from 88, 23 9%, J Gosden, 24 from 106, 22.6%, W Jarvs, 7 from 31, 22 6%, J Dunlop, 25 from 112, 22 3% JOCKEYS: W Ryan, 26 winners from 191 trites, 25.7%; Paul Eddery, 10 horn 65, 15.4%, A Cultiane, B from 64, 12.5%. O Holland, 8 horn 68, 11.8%, G Carter, 11 from 97, 11.3%, S Orowne, 6 from 60, 10.0%.

2.25 Regal Absence. 2.55 Danger Baby. 3.30 Boots Madden. 4.05 Talathath. 4.35 Difficult Decision. 5.10

(£2,303: 2m) (4 runners)

120- BROWNES HILL IAD 199 (S) R 0 Salivan 5-10-10 J Osborue 282- LIVELY ENCOLOTTER 190 (8F.D.S) Mrs M Jane: 6-10-10 J 0 Byrns 111 REBAL ABSENCE 31 (D.F. 6) Distorbon 5-10-10 . A Magure WHO TELLS JAN Mass P White 4-10-3 . W Marston

■ 2.55 MARSHALL TUFFLEX HANDICAP CHASE

1 0-51 MEWHALL PRINCE 11 (C.F.G) A Shorter 9-11-10 . T. Bey
1 0-51 MEWHALL PRINCE 11 (C.F.G) A Shorter 9-11-10 . T. Bey
2 1-35 GH SO HANDY 8 (B.F.G.S) R Cortz-9-11-8 . D. Morms
3 -031 THE GOPHER 24 (F.G.S.) O Shemood 7-11-3 . W Mauston
4 21-3 NEEP IT ZIPPED 24 (B.B.F.G.S) O Shemood 7-11-3 . A P. McCoy
5 324- DANGER RABY 155 F.G.S) P Bowen 7-11-3 . A P. McCoy
6 5-PD PAPER STAR 17 (F.G.) M Maggerdge 10-10-3 . SPP. L'UOMO PIU 122 (C.F.G.S) A Barrow 13-10-1 Mr. O McPhad (7)
3 The Gentle 2-3 have N Toward 4-1 Meadated Prince 9-7 (Drince Batter, 6-1 Ch. 5-2 The Gopher, 3-1 Acep It Zoped, 4-1 Newtool Prance 9-2 Danger Baby, 6-1 Oh 50 Handy, 20-1 L'Uomo Phu, 25-1 Paper Star

COURSE SPECIALISTS

JOCKEYS: A McCoy, 46 winners from 162 ndes, 28 4%, J Osborne, 30 from 107, 28 6%, D Morns, 7 from 42, 16 7%, C Lleweilyn, 24 from 148, 16 2%, A Maguer, 26 from 173, 15 0%; L Harvey, 8 from 76, 10.5%.

5.15 SEPTEMBER MAIDEN HANDICAP

(£3,339: 1m 6l) (15)

3.30 RIVER TEME NOVICES CHASE (£3,787: 2m 7t 110yd) (10)

(BF: 270 / T110/O) (10)

114- BOOTS MADDEN 256 (G.S.) Mcc. V Williams. 7-10-12 A Magnire

106- DANCIG ISLAND 319 (B.BF.F.G.) W Jerks 6-10-12 C Llewebyn

1-123 SERERAL MOURTAR 16 (BF.F.G.S.) M Ppc 7-10-12 A P McCoy

1070 THE SWING LISS M Jones 8-10-12 J Cottory

1070 THE SWING LISS M Jones 8-10-12 J D Byrne

10-14 ROAMING SHADDON 33 (F.S.S.) Photo 10-10-12 Mr J Tozzad (6)

1-25 SRIPLE AGH OAK 16 (S.) J O'Shea 7-10-12 Michael Bremun (3)

1-25 SRIP MICHAEL AGH OAK 16 (S.) J O'Shea 7-10-12 Michael Bremun (3)

1-24 OLR MICHAEL AGH OAK 16 (S.) J O'Shea 7-10-12 S Bermagh

1-414 LONGCREFT 24 (F.G.) C Pophens 5-10-3 Mr O McPlosh (7)

Level Michael Age - 2-2 Secret Michael Brents (7)

1-25 Michael Bremun (3)

1-24 OLR MICHAEL AGH OAK 16 (S.) J O'Shea 7-10-12 Michael Bremun (3)

1-24 OLR MICHAEL AGH OAK 16 (S.) J O'Shea 7-10-12 Michael Bremun (3)

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1-24 OLR MICHAEL AGH OAK 16 (S.) J O'Shea 7-10-12 Michael Bremun (3)

1-25 SHEATH AGH OAK 16 (S.) J O'Shea 7-10-12 Michael Bremun (3)

1-25 SHEATH AGH OAK 16 (S.) J O'Shea 7-10-12 Michael Bremun (3)

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1-25 SHEATH AGH OAK 16 (S.) J O'Shea 7-10-12 Michael Bremun (3)

1-25 SHEATH

11-8 Boots Madden, 9-2 General Mouldar, 5-1 Danzig Island, 8-1 others. 4.05 JOHN WHITT HANDICAP HURDLE

[24,3-15. 231 41) 147

1 112- TALATHARTH 127 (BF.F.G.S) O Nicholson 5-11-13 A Magnare
2 ULUG- HAWKER HENTER 48F (6) R Aleburat 6-11-7 . J Osbanne
3 U22- PERCY BRAITHWAITE 126 Mr Martin 5-11-6 Mr J Goldsten (7)
4 RISO VISION OF FREEDOM 5 O.F., G.P Bowen 9-10-3 . . . W Marston
6-5 Labereth, 5-2 Percy Braithweie, Hawker Houte, 8-1 Vision Of Freedom

4.35 EXCELNIR NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£2.978 2m) (9)

(\$2.9(8 201) (9)

1 3122 NO LIGHT 17 (BF.CD.F.G.S.) A Turnelt 10-11-13 ... L. Harvey
2 62-1 PHARARE 14 (D.F.S.) R Woodhouse 7-10-11 ... W Daran
3 3-AP ASTEROX 14 (F.) Brodes 9-10-6 ... R Fotorial
4 OPP. DIFFICUX 10-ECISION, Soli Mr. M. Jones 6-10-6 ... D Byrne
5 PP2 THE YOKEL 7 B Baugh 11-10-3 ... A Maguire
6 -266 GOLDEN DRIMA 67 (D.S.) 10-5 Nea 7-10-2 Machael Berstman (3)
7 0-P0 KOMG OF BABYLON 14 (F.) F. Jordan 5-10-0 ... S Wyrne
8 0-287 CANT SAY 15-J. Bodot 2-10-0 ... B Feeton
9 0256 SPARTANS 08KA 17 R Frest 6-10-0 ... Mr. A Holdsmorth
13-8 No Light 9-4 Prisorie, 7-1 Colorn Drain Difficual Decision, 10-1 others.

5.10 SPONSOR A RACE FOR A ET HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,343: 2m) (4)

1 1-21 ROBERT'S 10Y 47 (B.CD.F.S.S) M Pipe 6-11-12 A P MicCoy 2 14-1 MSHAMBRA 15 (CD.S.S) D Micholton 5-11-2 A Maguire 3 305- 89ND SABLE 193 (D.F.G.S.) R Stonge 7-11-1 J Collecty 50U- SOURC'S OCCASION 17F (D.F.) R Corts 4-10-5 J Disborne on an electromical 2-1 Robert's Time 13-7 Rend Sable Squite's Occasion

CATTERICK

Whirl, 3.45 Albert The Bear, 4,20 Misty Point, 4,50

tennis parent, thrusting his son forward

to compensate for things he never

achieved himself. He was successful

enough, but he was determined that his

son should be still better. "I remember as

a child sitting outside the house, where

my father had rigged up reins to the side

of a well. I would sit there for hours while

my father showed me how to change hands and pull the stick through."

His father never quite made that small,

colossal step that separates very good

from excellent. Frankie set out to conquer the world, working first with Luca

Cumani, an Italian training in Newmar-

ket. "Very focused," Cumani said. "Fo-

cused on the winning post. He can see the

communication between horse and rider.

Cumani is convinced that Dettori's great

The art of riding a horse is a two-way

winning post from a long, long way."

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM DRAW. 5F-7F, LOW NUMBERS BEST

2.10 OPEN-MORNING FILLIES NURSERY HANDICAP (2-Y-0: £3,226: 7f) (8 runners)

1 315 ZENA 47 (8F.F) W Janvis 9-7 J Fortune 2
2 SSD KATAH 40 J Socden 9-2 J Carroll 7
3 5452 ABHSLE STORY 15 P Wilstown 9-1 A MicRione 4
4 1300 TARCHED TREES 7 (CD.S) D Sarber 8-13 T Williams 5
5 0141 MARSKE MACHINE 28 (8.D.G.S) N Timber 8-7 Kim Timber 1
6 3100 THE HDWORABLE LAUTY (D.F) M CERNION 8-5 C March Moreks 3
7 000 SMOOTH FRINCESS 10 J FireSeach 8-5 L Clemnock 6
8 0032 MACDALEY 10 P FireSear 7-12 P Fessey (3) 8

3-1 Jangle Story, 4-1 Katah. 9-2 Marshe Marshe, 7-1 Zero, Tanzed Times, Marshely, 8-1 The Horovable Lady, 14-1 Smooth Process. 2.40 DUTTON-FORSHAW, STOCKTON LAND

ROVER MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-0: £3,568: 51) (14)

ER MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-0: £3,568: 51) (14)

00 AMBER RESENT 10 P Hackar 9-0 L. Charrock 3
4 GREAT MELODY 109 Fusicase 9-0 P Pressey (37)
04 HOWES CHOICE 77 R McAuhila 9-0 Date Gibson 9
000 LAWFUL CONTRACT 79 it Holimshead 9-0 D Griffiths (3) 1
04 SURPISSED 10 Mrs. J Barroden 9-0 J Forthans 8
0 ANDITZ 10 J Eyro 8-9 P O Pears 14
00 ANDITZ 10 J Eyro 8-9 P Boberts (3) 5
03 CARDI. SINGER 9 M Johnston 8-9 J Familing 11
CRYSTAL LOUGH 6 Oldroyd 8-9 R Familing (7) 4
5 LADY EMPAL 23 Mess J Drare 8-9 S Webster 10
66 MAYTONG 41 J Berry 8-9 T E Durcan (3) 2
02 MRS MALAPROP 6 M Charmon 8-9 J Carroll 30
0 PARELLA BLIEBRO 12 6 Oldroyd 8-9 R Hodgann 12
0 PRELLA BLIEBRO 12 6 Oldroyd 8-9 R Hodgann 12
0 PRELLA BLIEBRO 12 6 Oldroyd 8-9 R Hodgann 13
0 PARELLA BLIEBRO 12 6 Oldroyd 8-9 R Hodgann 13
0 WESTCOURT RUBY 10 M W Easterby 8-9 B Parlon (3) 6

Makarum 5-1 Sumrised 7-1 Howes Choice 8-1 Sicret Meland. Area 5-2 Mrs. Malagrop, 5-1 Surprised, 7-1 Howes Choice, 8-1 Great Metody, Arjan Mayrong, 10-7 Amber Rogent, Carol Surger, 20-1 others.

3.10 JOHN MORGAN YORKSHIRE EVENING POST HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £3,148: 1m 3i 214yd) (6)

3.45 THEAKSTON APPRENTICES LIMITED STAKES (£2,238: 51 212yd) (5)

1 0005 ALBERT THE BEAR 7 (B.CD.F.S.) J Berry 4-9-5 P Bradley (7) 3
2 0115 GAELIC STORM 7 (F.S.) M Johnston 3-9-3 . I Granthem (7) 2
3 0000 JOHNNY STACCATO 42 (D.G.S.) J Eistace 3-9-0 P Pessey 4
4 0006 MISS ARAGON 36 (D.G.) MIS L Saddal 9-8-10 T Saddal (5) 4
5 6300 ONNONOTAGAN 43 N Trikler 5-8-10 lone Wands (5) 1 5-6 Gaetic Storm, 7-4 Albert The Bear, 70-1 Johnny Stactato, 12-1 Miss Aragon 25-1 Ohnonglagan

4.20 BEDALE MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-0: £2,532: 5i 212yd) (8) 1 0000 CDL DMEL'S PRIDE 7 R Winnier 9-0
2 0000 PARDAN 19 B Poling 9-0
3 245- WOODETIO 443 £ Wormes 9-0
4 3330 DABRITRE 22 (V) H Collingvidge 8-9
5 0355 MISTY POINT 23 I Belding 8-9
6 006 PASSIONATTI 118 Collings 8-9
7 0000 TERRY'S ROSE 12 R Hollinshead 8-9
8 0 WOLETTE SABO 10 T Etherington 8-9

values ite SABO 10 T Etheringian 8-9 Crambic 7 11-8 Medy Posti, 9-2 Dawlma, 6-1 Passaniati, 7-1 Woodelto, 8-1 Parkin. Terry's Rose, 20-1 Coloral's Pride, Woleste Sabo

4.50 HIPSWELL HANDICAP (£3,096: 1m 7l 177yd) (11) 1 560- HOME COUNTIES 147J (F.S) D Modat 8-9-13

1 560- HOME COUNTIES 1473 (F.S) D Modati 8-9-13
Darren Mediat (3) 7
2 3610 HASTA LA VISTA 8 (B,CD,F,6,S) M W Excistry 7-9-13
G Parlon (3) 3
3 1020 FORZARI 9 (CD,F) J J O'Neil 5-9-8 ... A Michigane 5
5 2103 ARIAN SPIRIT 8 (V,D,F,S) J Eyra 6-9-7 ... J Forbine 8
5 2103 ARIAN SPIRIT 8 (V,D,F,S) J Eyra 6-9-7 ... J Forbine 8
5 2103 ARIAN SPIRIT 8 (V,D,F,S) J Eyra 6-9-7 ... J Williams 9
6 0250 ROSE O'G ELDHI 12 (C,F,6) B Palling 6-9-3 P Roberts (3) 11
7 5140 MY MILLIE 32 (C,6) W Skerey 4-8-10 ... J Famility 1
8 00-2 RANGER SLOAMS (12 (F) 8 McMahon 6-8-6 ... M Carliste 10
9 0460 COURSE RESAMS (12 (F) 8 McMahon 6-8-6 ... Fewbord 4
10 4345 PINESTATETOREN 7 F Watson 4-8-3 ... P Fessey (3) 2
11 0000 WELCOME LU 12 (C,F,6) J L Haris 4-7-12 ... F Horbon 6
1-1 Agran Spiril 9-2 Fullices 6-1 Heista Li V-da. Rance Sloane 7-1 Forzar 8-1

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAMERS: R Charloo, 3 winners from 4 numers, 75.0%, 6 Palking, 4 from 13, 30 PK; W Jarvis, 3 from 12, 25.0%, M Channon, 11 from 45, 24.4%, 0 Barker, 4 from 17, 23.5%; K McAefille, 3 from 15, 20.0%. JOCKEYS: J Carroll. 27 Winners from 173 ddes. 15.6%; L Mewton, 4 from 26, 15.4%, J Fortune, 19 from 125, 15.2%, O Pears, 6 from 48, 12.5%, F Norton, 4 from 34, 11.6%, G Parism, 5 from 45, 11.1%.

4-1 Agen Speil, 9-2 Felicpep, 6-1 Hesta La Vista, Ranger Stoane, 7-1 Forzar, 8-1 Rosa (V Gleon, Course Fishing, 12-1 piners

MARKET RASEN

4.15 Dark Oak. 4.45 Jamaican Flight. 5.20 Serious

GOING: GOOD 2.35 LINPAC GARAGES GROUP NOVICES

HANDICAP HURDLE (\$2,276; 2m 1f 110yd) (7 runners) 5-2 Down The Yard, 3-1 Summer Villa, 4-1 Silventals Lad, 7-1 others.

3.05 RADIO LINCOLNSHIRE JUVENILE SELLING HURDLE (3-Y-0: £1,814: 2m 11/1) (13)

IDLE (3-Y-U. 27, dT 4; 2m1 7/51) (13)

16 CHOPIN 12 (G) 6 Jobrson Hooghton 11-3 ... D Sallagher

12 LE SHAND GOUSSEN 11F (SLCD.) R Wallams 11-3 R Durwtondy

BALL-PET 42* J Panies 10-10 ... E Hassland (S)

3 FORTINER HOPPER 31 J Person 10-10 ... T Kern

0 MORTHERN MAESTRO 45F Mrs M Reveley 10-10 ... P Meets

SHORELEAVE 122F Bob Jones 10-10 ... R Gartity

THE TIG 1487 S Bell 10-10 ... K Johnson

MENTURE CONNECT 1887 C Brooks 10-10 ... S Michell

BLUSH 11F M Pipe 10-5 ... C Maude

60 EMIY-JAYNE 11 (6) Mrs M Reveley 10-5 ... G Lec (3)

4 LA PEROMA 25 Mass M Mallagon 10-5 ... A S Smith

MELODIC SOLAW 4F M Biethy 10-5 ... R Torobbie

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MELODIC SOLAW 4F M Biethy 10-5 ... R Torobbie

MELODIC SOLAW 4F M Biethy 10-5 ... R Torobbie

MELODIC SOLAW 4F M Biethy 10-5 ... R Torobbie

MENTY CAY 6F 1 Le Grand Gouster, 7-1 Forfune Hooger, 8-1 offers. 5-2 Blush, 4-1 Misty Cay, 6-1 Le Grand Gousier, 7-1 Fortune Hopper, 8-1 others.

3.40 AUDREY BUTTERY REUNION HANDICAP HURDLE (£3.717; 3m) (4) 1 1PF EVER SMILE 16 (D.F.S) M Pipe 10-12-0 N Williamson 2 1327 DERRING BRIDGE 16 (D.F.G.S) Mr. S. Johann 7-11-3 R Johann 3 - P26 AMTIGLIAR FLYER BY (F.S.) 6 Protestons 8-10-2 X Alexan 4 1025 THIRTY BELOW 6 (F) M Chapters 8-10-0 W Wortstagdon

4.15 SINGLETON BIRCH HANDICAP CHASE (£4,042: 2m 4f) (5) #.U42: 2011 *1) (2)

1 423 BEATSON 179 (BF.D.F.G.5) R Bucklet 8-11-13 _____ B Powel

2 1/F- SPEACER WEATHEREL 289 (CD) O Berson 8-11-11 M Bossnau

3 P3-5 DARK OAK 6 (CD.F.G.5) J Curbs 11-11-3 _____ A Thomas

4-41 TOCHTER BUDGET 11 (D.F.G.5) Incres Syste 10-11-2 — A Dobbin

5 411- HIGHBEATH 154 (CD.F.G) Mrs M Reveloy 6-10-9 ____ P Neco

6-4 Dening Bridge, 7-4 Ever Smile, 4-1 Anaguan Flyes, 7-7 That'y Below

11-8 Highbeath, 3-1 Tighter Budget, 5-1 Beatson, 6-1 others 4.45 MORRISONS CORRUGATED PRODUCTS HANDICAP HURDLE (\$2,746: 2m 3f 11Dyd) (6)

9-4 Irle Mon. 3-1 Jameiran Flight, 7-2 Costage Prince, 4-1 Shelels, 8-1 others

5.20 LINPAC GARAGES GROUP NOVICES CHASE (£2,945; 2m 11 110yd) (6)

1 003 - CHERYL'S LAD 134 (D.F.G.S) D Micholson 7-10-10 R Johnson 2 PG-P GEMS PUBLIC 105 (F) P Cheesbrough 10-10-10 A S Smith 3 567 JAMANET (1082 T) Domestly 7-10-10 ... Mr R Armston 4 122 RANGETINGS 199 (BF.D.G.S) C More 6-10-10 R Durawandy 5 PG-P SEPROUS 134 (F.G.) K Baller 7-10-10 ... Mr Williamston 6 00-3 STANDARDE 14 C Brooks 5-10-8 ... Mr Villiamston 6 00-3 STANDARDE 14 C Brooks 5-10-8 ... Sinckletii 6-4 Cheryl's Lad, 7-4 Rangitilies, 7-2 Serious, 10-1 Stammoru, 33-1 others. 5.50 GO FOR GOLD STANDARD NATIONAL HUNT FLAT (£1,152: 1m 5i 110yd) (12)

Miss A Dudley (7)

Miss A Dudley (7)

L Suffren (7)

L Caronins (5)

C McCormack (7)

A Tode (7)

G Hoger (3)

Mr B Leavy

P Honley (3)

T Early (3) 85- DARK HORSE 121 C Brooks 5-11-4 _ RF-0 FOREST PLIGHT 91 C Hemsley 5-11-4 RF-D FOREST RUGHT 91 C Hemeley 5-11-4
0-0 LYSANDER 105 Mrs S Lumman 5-11-4
0-1 DOVE FROM ABOVE 8 R J Price 4-11-2
60 ERANNE 73 B Elleon 4-11-2
KALEK Ron Thothpson 4-11-2
04-1 JESSICA DNE 2'05 Mrs M Reveley 6-10-13
04 NO ROSSE B McLatta 6-10-13
05 FOR IT SWEETING 6 Barnetl 4-10-11
MINIMAL STORM J WEITERGIN 4-10-11
MINIMAL STORM J WEITERGIN 4-10-11
MINIMAL STORM J DATE 4-10-11
MINIMAL STORM J DATE 4-10-11
MINIMAL DRAW J

4-5 Jassica One, 5-1 Dark Horse, 6-1 Dave From Abovo, 16-1 others. **COURSE SPECIALISTS**

TRANERS C Mann. 5 womers have 15 numers, 33.3%, K Barley, 14 from 46, 30.4%, C Brooks, 3 hom 11, 27.3%; J Pearce, 5 from 19, 26.3%, D Micholson, 6 hom 24, 25.0%, M Pape, 16 hom 64, 25.0%, JOCKEYS N Williamson, 20 womers from 76 rides, 25.6%, L Wyer, 20 from 106, 18.9%, R Dumerooty, 14 hom 75, 18.7%, M Pitzperald, 9 hom 54, 16.7%, R Johnson, 8 from 50, 16.0%; F Lestry, 8 from 52, 15.4%

King Of Kings has chip removed from knee

KING OF KINGS, a leading fancy for next year's 2,000 Guineas, underwent a minor operation to remove a slight chip from his off-fore knee yesterday (Our Irish Racing Correspondent writes). However, his trainer, Aidan O'Brien, expects the son of Sadler's

Wells to make a full recovery. O'Brien revealed that the problem came to light after the winner of Sunday's Aga Khan Studs National Stakes at the Curragh was found to be slightly stiff in front after light exercise on Tuesday. John Halley, the Ballydoyle vet, was called to examine him and an X-ray showed up a small chip in the colt's knee.

"An operation has been performed to remove the chip and the procedure went well," O'Brien said. "I had not intended to race him again as a two-year-old so this unfortu-

nate injury does not effect his campaign. I expect him to make a full and complete recovery from the operation and he remains on target for next year's 2,000 Guineas."

Nonetheless, King Of Kings has drifted in the Guineas betting, with Coral pushing him out to 10-1 from 8-1. Second Empire, his stable companion, was cut from 8-1 into 7-1 joint-favourite with Daggers Drawn. Simon Clare, spokesman for Coral, said: "The money

for Second Empire comes as no surprise as he arguably put up the best two-year-old performance of the season so far in France. We haven't taken a penny on King Of Kings since his defeat two months ago, and that, allied to the recent emergence of Xaar and Second Empire, persuaded us to lengthen his odds."

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Haydock Park

Going: good 2.30 (1m2 120yd) 1, Sunny Isle (J Reid, 7-4 Iav), 2, Beacon Silver (2-1), 3, Movelge (7-1) 6 ran NR Acolina, 114), 41 C Well Tote: \$2.30; \$1.80, \$1.70 DF \$2.20 CSF, \$4.79 22.20. CSF. £4.79
3.00 (7) 30vc) 1, Moonshiner (Paul Eddery, 13-2); 2, Kawa-lb (2-1); 3, Maypole (7-4 tay), 6 ran 69, ¼1 G Wragg, Tote: £7.20, £2.90, £1.50 DF: £9.50. CSF: £18.48.
3.30 (1m 3) 200yd) 1, Marsul (R Hills, 8-1); 2, Baily Bushwacker (6-1); 3, Aerleon Pete (15-8 tay), 9 ran, ½1, ½1 J Grosden Tote: £9.10; £2.20, £2.00, £1.60. DF £24.30. Trio £32.30 CSF: £50.60. Tricast: £116.45.

Tricast: £116 45.
4.00 (1m 30yd) 1, Duraid (C Lowther, 11-2 law), 2, Jedi Knight (11-1); 3, Night Of Glass (7-1); 4, Suafiach (14-1), 17 ran. NR: Kass Alhana, 2, 16 ID Smith Tote: £5.80, £2.00, £3.20, £1.70, £2.90. DF £5170. Trio. £219 80. CSF. £58 69. Tricast: £402.22
4.30 (6i) 1, Kheyrath (R Hills, 6-4 law), 2, Branston Berry (9-1), 3, Peter's Imp. (16-1), 11 ran. Ni. 3l E Duritop Tote £2.30, £1.50, £2.50. £3.60 DF £10.70. Trio. £100 50. CSF £15.00 Tricast £150.48
5.00 (im £1), The Ferancey Tree (Paul

5.00 (1m 6l) 1, The Faraway Tree (Paul Eddery, 8-11 lav); 2, Pottari (3-1); 3, Nabhaan (3-1), 3 ran, Sh hd. 4l G Wragg Tote: £1.60, DF £1.70 CSF, £2.85

Placepot: £13.80. Quadpot: £6.90. Redcar Going: firm, good to firm in places

2.20 (1m 1)*1. Sinon (D Hotland, 20-1); 2, Double Blade (2-1) f-lan); 3, Paradise Soul (12-1), Palumans Star 2-1 p-lan, 10 ran 2-9, nk M Johnston Tote £19 70; £3.60, £1.10, £3.50 DF £14.40, Tno: £36.00, CSF £63.99. CSF 553 99.
2.50 (61) 1. Johayro (D Griffiths, 12-1), 2, Sant Express (6-1), 3, Thwasb (12-1), 4, French Grif (16-1) Just 8ob 9-2 lav 17 ran. Hd. nk. J Goldie, Tota, £13.40; £3.30, £1.70, £2.40, £5.50 DF; £48.50 Troc £266.10, CSF, £78.27, Tricast, £878.09 £266.10. CSF. £78.27. Tricast. £878.09
3.20 (1m 2l) 1, Tert (K Fallon, 9-2 §-lev),
2. Friial (8-1): 3, Lochiass (8-1), 4,
Raindeer Cuest (5-1) Grade Times 9-2 §-lev 17 ran. 9-1, 9-1, 10-

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4.20 (71) 1, Ricky Ticky Tavic (K Fallon, 25 (av), 2, Bamburgh Boy (4-1), 3, Colvey Fitz (16-1), 12 ran, 144, 24 (D Loder Tote \$1.50, £1.0, £1.0, £2.80, DF £2.20 Trio: £7.50 CSF £2.31 4.50 (6)) 1, Special Treat (K Falton, 7-4 jt-lay); 2, Yanomemi (7-4 jt-lay); 3, Lindesberg (2-1) 4 ran 4l, hd D Loder Tote: £2.50 DF £2.00 CSF; £4.73 5.20 (5) 1. Mighty Sure (G Parkin, 3-1), 2. Swammore Lady (3-1); 3. Ellenbrook (9-4 lav), 8 ran Shind, 41 M W Essterby Tate 25,00; C1 30, C1 50, C1 30, DF 26,20 CSF, C11,83, Tricast 221,71 Placeport 262,30. Quadport 28,10.

Folkestone

Going: firm 2.10 (1m 11 149yd) 1. Deltus (Dane O'Nedi, 11-10 lavi, 2 Priluki (3-1); 3. Miss Via (9-1) 7 ran 1-1, nk. F Guest Tote £1.60. £1.30. £2.20 DF: £2.60. CSF £4.40. 2.40 (6) 1, Legal Lerk (M Roberts, 3-1), 2, Just Another Time 19-4 tax), 3, Lady Abratra (10-1) 11 ran, Hd, 151 P Howling Tote: 14 30; 15.80, 15.30, 123 50 DF, 25 10 Trio: £44,50 CSF: £9.94

3.10 (5f) 1, Call To Order (R Mullen, 4-5 tav), 2, Micsed The Cut (13-2), 3, Rad Pepper (20-1) 10 ran Nh; 1vL C Wall Tole € 160, € 110, 12.20, £ 4.40 DF £ 4.20, Tno: £28,60 CSF £ 5.08. 3.40 (50) 1, Manties Pride (R Firench, 8-1); 2. Arisn Da (8-1), 3, Ok John (7-1) Escudo 2-1 (av. 8 ran 14), 21 G Lawis Tote; 510.40; 52.20, 52.30, 52.00 DF: 52.9 90, CSF, 539.30, Tricast 5345.49

CSF. E69.30. Tricest £345.49
4.10 (61 189yd) 17. Master Milliseld (J. Wildmon, 14-1), 17. Zurs (H. Mullen, 9-2), 3. Mulchilles (14-1) Lunch Party 2-1 lav 14 ran. NR Red Embers, Super Park Dd-H, rk. C. Hill. J. Poulkon, Tote Zurs £3.20, Master Milliseld £7.90, Zurs £2.20, Master Milliseld £7.90, Zurs £2.20, Master Milliseld £4.90, £5.30. DF £118.60 Tricest £357.10 CSF Zurs, Master Milliseld, Zurs £40.46, Tricest Zurs, Master Milliseld, Authlies £41.86; Master Milliseld, Zurs, Mulchilles £4.80.

4-40 (1m 7l 92yd) 1, Unchanged (M Roberts, 5-1): 2, Padauk (16-1); 3, Coh Sho No (2-1) il Principe 7-4 fay, 9 ran NR-Bronharlow, Star Entry, 114, 24); C Britan Tole: 05 20; 01.40, 24 50, 01.40, DF: 049.20, 17to 637.50, CSF: 673.21, Tricast, 6195.36.

5.10 (1) 41) 1. Opera Buff (J Wildrison, 9-2), 2. Pistol (2-1 fav); 3. Nobel Lad (12-1) 9 ran NR: Skalejack Hd, 51 Mes G Kelloway, Tota: (5 80, 62-40, 62-00, 62-00, DF 65-70 Trib: 531.80, CSF: \$13.75. Jackpot £7,890.10.

Placepol £87.90. Quadpot £49.40.

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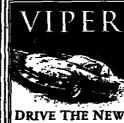
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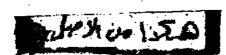
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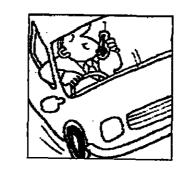
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SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 27 1997

Saddle up for the superstore

Can't manage the weekly shop without a car? You can with a bicycle hitched to a hod, says Vaughan Freeman

t causes noise, pollution and congestion, but for many people the car is essential on at least one day a week. Getting to out-oftown supermarkets — and returning loaded with the family shopping - presents problems if you're walking or using public transport.

The answer could be to get on your bike - with a bright yellow shopping trolley hit-ched to the back. It might seem a low-tech alternative to today's computer-laden cars, but it could point the way to our fume-free transport future.

The weekly drive to the superstore can be up to four or five miles before queueing nose to tail with the rest of the traffic to get into the car park. Then comes the trail through the aisles, before loading up carrier bags at the checkout, loading the bags into the boot. queueing to get out of the car park again, then decanting the whole lot out and into the kitchen after the drive home

Now that Transport Secretary John Prescott has officially sounded the death knell for the two-car family, and has rephrased Norman Tebbit by urging us to get on our bikes, trains and buses, the anti-car tide is gaining momentum.

Which is where the Tesco-Bike and Trailer Shopping scheme comes in. The Tesco store on the fringes of Chichester in West Sussex has 600 parking spaces, but the hope is that more of them will stand empty after Tesco and the Chichester District Council joined forces to make it easier for customers to cycle rather than drive to do their shop-

The scheme offers motorists and cyclists alike a new way to shop. Having paid E5 to join the scheme, members get free use of the gaudily yellow "bike

hods" which hitch to the back of their cycles using an ingenious but simple-to-use cou-

pling.
It means shoppers need just load the hod at the checkout, hitch up, then unload it at home. And, because of the Chichester town planner's forward-thinking, shopping cyclists have the use of a network of cycle paths and trafficcalmed routes other towns would do well to emulate.

Tesco store manager Paul Tyson says: "Jeff Lander, the district council's senior planning officer, came to see me with some information, including the fact that about a quarter of the people locally do not have access to a car. "He also showed me the

bike hod idea. Clearly hanging carrier bags over your handlebars is not a safe way to go shopping, while regular cycle panniers are smaller and limited as to the amount of shopping they can carry." The idea of a partnership to

promote the bike-hods at Fishbourne store seemed an obvious move. "The council and Tesco decided to enter a partnership to provide the bike-hods and the response has been terrific," Lander says. "A lot of people shop by bicycle anyway and the bikehod allows them to carry far more, much more safely."

Designed to stand out in poor visibility, the hod can be fitted with lights for safer night riding. It is stable, says Lander, and the cyclist barely feels it is there. The more traffic congestion

grows, the more perhaps people will see it just is not worth getting the car out to do the shopping and think instead they should take the bike," Landers adds.

The car has the clear advantage of having a boot. The bike-hod gives the bicycle

can load it in the supermarket and unload it at home, saving two lots of car loading which

has to make things easier."

Tyson adds: "Realistically ! don't think you are going to see the demise of the car as the main mode of transport; but if with schemes like this we can reduce the use of cars we can make an impact, because up until now there has not been an easy-to-use alternative to the car for doing the weekly

Using the bike hod is surprisingly simple. The hitch is in effect a flexible rubber hose that slots over a short metal pipe fitted to the bicycle's saddle post. A pin keeps the hose in place, and this acts as an articulated coupling be-tween cycle and hod.

¶he hod can carry up to 81 litres, and a weight that would take two adults to lift. Yet on the move you can cycle along merrily and feel almost as if there is nothing behind you.

The only problem is that you tend to forget that the hod is 6ins or so wider each side than the cycle, so squeezing through narrow gaps can be embar-rassing. The hod soaks up bumps and kerbs without difficulty and is stable.

The ultimate irony delicious one for Chichester fans of pedal power - is that many Tesco cycle shoppers will bike home along the Centurion Way, a dedicated cycle path running by a disused railway line which has for many years been the route of a possible road bypass for

With the transport wind now set firmly against the car. Chichester's biking shoppers can expect their way to be carfree for many years to come.



Claire Edwards: "We've filled it with all sorts of shopping, including trays of beer. Every customer has asked about it"

HOD CARRIER

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■ CLAIRE Edwards is full of praise for the

bike-hod. Claire, 23, who works at the superstore and has been demonstrating the system to customers: We have been filling it up with all sorts of shopping, including heavy things like trays of beer. You don't even know you have got the hod on the bike and when we have been demonstrating every customer has stopped to ask about it It is a really good idea. If I lived closer to the store, I would definitely use one for my shopping." ■ HER reservations represent the key obstacle to the project's instant success

– she lives nine hilly miles from the Tesco store, and at the moment her Vauxhail Astra remains favourite for the weekly shop ahead of 18 or so tough miles on two wheels.

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es.

■ IF YOU have the legs for it though, the hod system is simplicity itself to use. and a lot cheaper and healthier than a car. It is also far roomier than even the biggest pannier. although users are warned against carrying children or pets. ■ THE HOD must

be returned to the Tesco customer service desk within three days, hopefully filled with old newspapers, empty cans, and bottles to complete the "green" recycling circle. **■** THERE were no

problems on a warm September day, but the test will come as winter approaches, and rain, snow, cold winds and mud challenge two-wheeler customers whose alternative to a bicycle, is the warm cocoon of a motor car.

away in an instant. Porsche say it

stops rocketing at 174mph — or 171mph in the five-speed automatic

with Tiptronic button controls on the wheel - and I believe them.

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way the old 911 never did. This one

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Brilliant Porsche leaves the Look-at-me-mobile behind in speed and style

The born-again 911 is a giant leap that

drives like a dream, writes lan Morton

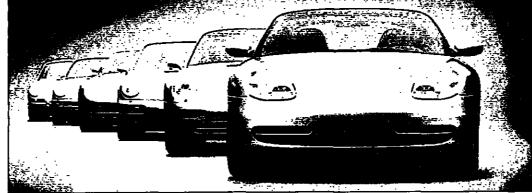
n 1963, when tiddler Stuttgart sports car firm Porsche pro-L duced a new rear-engined model based on its well-liked 350, they called it the 901. Peugeot promptly complained that the use of a middle zero infringed their established practice, so Porsche changed the zero to a 1. Courtesy of French meddling, the embryo icon became

Now, after 34 years of evolution during which the basic concept and shape have remained intact and Porsche has built a huge international sports car reputation - it now sells in 69 countries - the 911 is born again. It is a quantum leap above and beyond the archetypal raw-edged Look-at-me-mobile of the yuppie Eighties, a period which Porsche would now prefer to lorget. despite its obvious cash-flow bene-

Though the car is new in every espect, there never was a moment

when Porsche executives considered losing either the unmistakable shape or the legendary designation. And purist customers need not fret. In every department this latest 911 is significantly better than the current four-year-old model. Tech-nology director Horst Marchart reckons that, with suitable updating, it will be good for a dozen years. First version, here next month, is the Carrera Coupé at £64,950. Cabrio, four-wheel drive and RS models will follow.

Logic propels this redesign. Revered by enthusiasts but financially rocky. Porsche decided to reorganise its operation around two model ranges, the 911 and midengined Boxster, with simultaneous development and a high level of commona parts. Though they aim at totally different customers, 411 and Boxster share almost 40 per cent of components, mainly at the



Porsche 911: executives never considered losing the unmistakable shape or legendary designation

In addition, the 911's venerable flat-six, air-cooled engine had to go. Only a water-cooled multi-valve version of the unit would meet impending noise and exhaust legislation and improved consumption needs. While they were about it. they made engine and gear box

Add uprated active and passive safety, extra steering and suspension integrity, a mass of practical new design detail and a heap of new technology - there are 10 electronic control units reporting to a central computer on the car's "state of health" — and no wonder Porsche engineers needed a blank sheet. The result is a brilliant new chapter in the history of what many see as the car of the century. The 911 advances in every department.

Look at it. Seven inches longer and an inch wider, but weighing 110lbs less than the outgoing 911 (which remains available till next July), its bulk is sleek and athletic.

Slip inside. There is more space in every direction (though still not enough to accommodate adult legs in the rear) and the control area is methodically laid out, daintily presented and easily used. This is now

PORSCHE 911

Engine: 3.4-litre, flat six. 24-valve water-cooled. Transmission: Six-speed manual, five-speed auto with Tiptronic S.

Performance: 0-60mph in 5.2secs (auto 6secs). Max speed 174mph. Economy: Combined 28mpg (manual), 26.6mpg (auto). Equipment: UK specifica-

tion still to be finalised.

Price: £64,950.

with a veneer of luxury.

is spinning unheard at 2.500rpm

against an available 7,400. Absent

too is wind noise. Only the road

rumbles reassuringly. Stab the throttle - pendant now, not floor-

familiar whirring yell and rockets

- and the car utters that

bends and it just goes round. If you doubted its abilities, you wonder why. Challenge the next bends more violently and wonder some more. For the more testing the corner the more accurate and communicative the steering and the more level and confident the squat a comfortable money's worth tourer rather than a sizzling projectile of the car upon its redesigned lightweight suspension. Listen to it. At 70mph the engine

I did get a tiny twitch on one corrugated corner, but the traction control system nailed it in an instant, As for the brakes, Porsche developed them at Le Mans. The car hit 60mph from rest in five seconds and stopped dead in half



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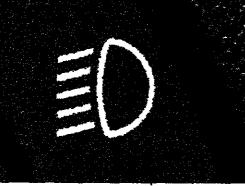
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series of exams needed to gain a private pilot's licence, was sent solo from Oxford to Cambridge and Coventry. Finals is pilot-speak for an aircraft's last descent on to the runway after joining an airfield's circuit to land. The qualifying cross country

is a landmark in any pilots life. For me it also marked the crossing of a mental harrier in a personal odyssey to try to conquer an all-embracing dread of flying. While I cannot say there have been no numents of stomach-turning fear, facing up to the phobia hogey has worked - thanks largely to the patience and expertise of two instructors at Oxford Air Training School, an institution more used to training the next generation of airline pilots than prising the nervous off the ground. Joe Sharp - ex-RAF naviga-

for and now one of Oxford's commercial pilot instructors left me momentarily speechless when he sent me on my first solo without any hint of warning after about 17 hours' of lessons. Brian Hampson persuaded me. after more than 40 hours, that it is possible to find your way with no signposts, maps which at first seem to bear no relationship to the reality of seemingly identical villages and fields 2,000 feet below, and where white, benign clouds have a disconcerting propensity to become black monsters.

I had been sent on a couple of shorter forays before the qualifying cross country, but the old, cold fear tried to raise its head as I opened the throttle and the Piper Warrior accelerated down the runway

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Eo.000-£7,000, while learning

at a grass strip, such as Skyline School of Flying at

Little Gransden in Cam-

bridgeshire, can be £2,000-

£2.500. But Oxford in your log

book is the flying equivalent of

an Oxbridge degree.

The cost of learning also

depends on how long you take.

You need a minimum of 43

hours' tuition, including 10

hours' solo, but most people

take more than 50 hours and 1

have nearly 60. This is largely

because, in common with

many others, work, bad wea-

ther and other commitments

at Kidlington airfield just outside Oxford. Keeping on the centre line and glancing at the instruments to check oil and fuel temperatures and pressures, I reached 65 knots, and the only way was up. I eased back the control column and was airborne.

rom that moment I was so busy climbing. carrying out the series of checks which monitor the health of the 160hp engine and the progress of the flight, making regular radio contact with various air traffic controllers and marvelling at the miracle of navigation by dead reckoning, that the phobia was locked back in its cage.

Oxford Air Training School is regarded as one of the world's best and is currently forced me to take more than a year's break, and it took more than 10 hours to eatch up. To gain a PPL, you need a

medical certificate and must pass written multiple-choice exams in aviation law, mercorology, human performance (which deals in such matters as oxygen starvation), navigation, technical aspects of the aircraft and use of the radio. These are covered in more detail than you may imagine: the met exam alone, for instance, probably requires as much study as a GCSE. One of the most frustrating aspects of learning to fly is to coordinate this range of skills -I am not alone in initially finding using the radio immensely distracting when merely keeping the aircraft in straight and level flight seems to demand all your attention.

Then, just when you think you're going to he the world's longest-running student pilot, it all becomes clear. You do your sums to calculate the effect of wind, the times to reach certain landmarks, the direction you should steer and, hey presto, it works. The day dawns when you are not settine out more in hope than

anticipation of arriving.
The important lesson Brian Hampson taught me was to accept that you are not going to know exactly where you are every second of the way, but that if you keep on course recognisable landmarks will eventually appear — usually at precisely the time predicted at

the planning stage.

Everything then happens quickly and you are entered for the navigation test, where an examiner accompanies you on a pre-planned flight and diverts you to see if you would get lost if bad weather forced you to change route, the quali-fying cross country and the general flight test, a sort of driving test in the sky.

Pre-flight briefing: it is possible with maps which seem to bear no relationship to seemingly identical villages and fields

After climbing away from Kidlington, setting the stop-watch and seeing the airfield disappear as I headed east towards Cambridge, I tuned the radio in to Luton as I was to pass within its radar area. The prospect of talking in radio-telephony language to an international airport with presumably more than chits of student pilots to contend with can be daunting at first. But

not as daunting as the thought of straying inadvertently too close to controlled airspace with its flight paths for big jets if you do not let the air traffic controllers know you exist so they can track you on radar. Milton Keynes and Biggles-

wade appeared at the predicted times and, about 45 minutes after leaving Oxford, the brown haze of a city loomed. Five minutes later,

spires and steeples were clear-BFYB, are you visiting som one or intending to stop the night?" air traffic controll visible and, nestling on the far side was Cambridge airport. "Golf Bravo Foxtrot Yanasked as I was joining Cove kee Foxtrot, finals to land," I radioed after being given try's circuit. If he couldn't tel was a rookie, I could probab fool some of the people some clearance by the control tower, starting to feel like a real pilot. the time - even myself.

Paying the landing fee of £8

made me feel even more auth-

entic. But it was the approach

to Coventry an hour and a half

later which clinched it. "G-

Oxford Air Training School, 018 841234; Skyline School of Flyir 01767 651950. There is no centi register of flying schools, but mu Yellow Pages list local ones.

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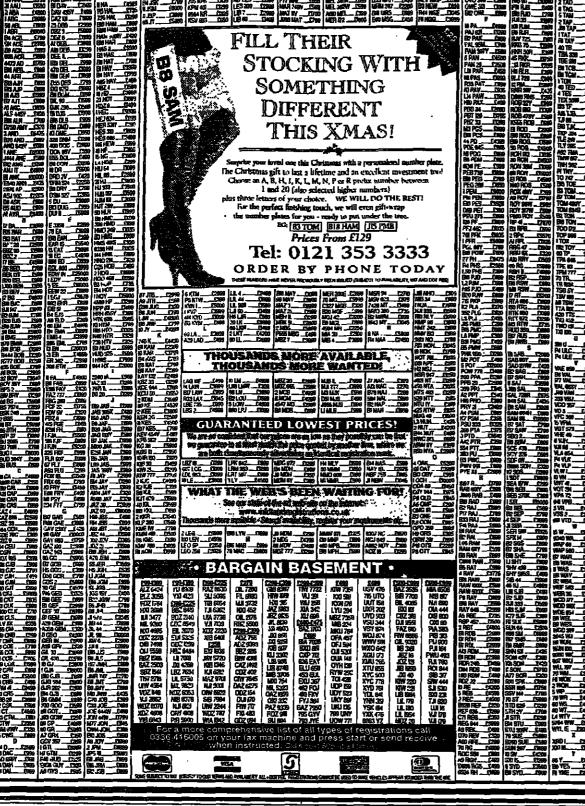
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We ought to be grown-up enough to deal with the situation without legislation, but we are not; the mobile phone has become the adult umbilical cord

Don't call me, I've got my hands full

nly the youngest read-ers will need to be told that the world managed before mobile relephones and will continue to do so when they have gone. There is not a scintilla of evidence that the Second World War might have been avoided had Hitler been able to ring Neville Chamberlain in his limousine. Neither is it true that Margaret Thatcher might have survived the 1990 Tory coup had her campaign manager, in calling wavering MPs, not kept getting the

message "network busy".

Stories of multibillion-pound contracts being lost because a managing director's car was stalled, beyond the reach of Vodaphone, Cellnet or Orange, in an underpass when he was needed to agree a contractual change are almost certainly apocryphal.

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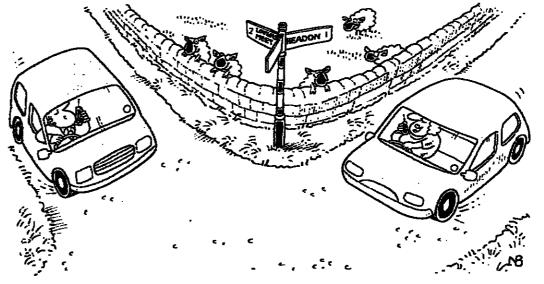
Peter Barnard

Mobile telephones, much like the Internet, electric toothbrushes and Noel Edmonds, are non-essential items. Lots of people have mobile telephones, lots of people find them useful, but nobody "needs" one. I have one, but I do not "need" it. I could easily

essential and I suppose that, as a journalist, mine is nearer to being essential than some. But a bleeper would do just as well, and indeed days go by without me needing the telephone or the telephone needing me. On these occasions, their use in curs might as well be banned for all they matter to me. But that is not the only reason why I propose to argue for such a ban.

I am merely coat-tailing the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, which has been researching the use of phones in cars (as opposed to mobile phones per se). The evidence that using a mobile while driving is dangerous is overwhelming. Their use in cars should be prevented by law.

There is a widespread misconception that there is already a ban, at least on motorways. But there is



nothing about mobiles in any of the legislation. There is merely an understanding that the police have the right to bring a prosecution for careless driving if they see someone using a mobile in circumstances they consider dangerous ---

at speed, for example. Having spotted that things are moving against them, the mobile

phone lobby, is conducting some-thing of a rearguard action. It argues that mobiles are indeed dangerous because they involve taking a hand off the wheel to pick up the phone. Therefore we must all rush out and buy hands-free sets. Utter rubbish.

The problem with mobiles in cars is not the physical require-

ment but the mental one. An incoming telephone call, taken in a car, more often than not falls into one of two categories: it is either an emergency or it requires some kind of business decision.

This week I have heard people in the mobile phone business arguing that taking a call is no different to listening to the radio or conversbish. A driver does not have 'n concentrate fully on Dire Straits or listen to a spouse argue the merits of buying a new carpet, whereas the nature of most incoming calls significantly distracts from the task of driving.

There are tragic cases of people who have died in circumstances where using a mobile telephone might have contributed. My young colleague, Kate Alderson, was using a mobile when she died in a crash last year. There can be no proof that the phone played a part. but we must do something to remove even the possibility.

Of course we ought to be grownup enough to deal with the situation without legislation, but clearly we are not. The mobile phone has become the adult umbilical cord: we dare not cut it, even for a moment. And yet, so far as I know, all networks now offer an answering service at no extra charge, so there is no excuse for taking calls while the car is moving.

The answer to your next question is yes, I have done, sometimes. But in future I shall leave the phone alone when it rings and collect messages later. The world will survive without hearing from

Full moon over Everest lights yak track across the Roof of the World



Nepalese children push Jennifer Gillies and Francesca Sternberg's Volvo Amazon out of the sand of a river bed

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hen we left Peking two weeks ago there were several bets by the officials as to how many vehicles would reach Kath mandu. The man in charge of shipping ordered 40 containers ready to return cars forced

It hardly inspired confi-dence, but in fact 90 of the 96 cars that started from Peking made it. Just as surprising is the list of cars leading the competitive category The first six included a Ford Anglia (Broderick), Citroen 2CV (Richmond and Newman). Ford Cortina (Catt), Chevrolet Camaro (Howard Bellm), an Iranian Peykan Hunter and the Rover P5 of Jonathan Lux and David Drew. Sadly, David Drew was taken ill and had to be flown home shortly after leaving Kathmandu. But I was grateful to accept the role of navigator to Jonathan Lux,

Lord Montagu and survivors reach Kathmandu on the Peking-Paris rally

which enabled me to continue following the retirements of my own Vauxhall Prince Henand of John Matheson's Rolls-Royce Phantom V in which I had hitched a ride.

The last week has subjected cars and drivers to terrible punishment with roads and conditions impossible to describe, but most got through to earn them two days' respite in Kathmandu.

The girls continue to do well, although the British team of Francesca Sternberg and Jennifer Gillies in their Volvo Amazon "Gordon" had to get mechanics to repair their suspension after arriving without shock absorbers. The American women (Dodwell and Obart) in their Hillman

Hunter crashed off the road and had to be literally lifted back by the locals then repaired by our excellent backup team.

We got a tremendous welcome from the Nepalese and. as Nepal's first motorsport event, we were honoured by the royal patronage of King Mehendra and visited by the Crown Prince Dependra. Whole towns turned out and schoolchildren waved Red Cross flags - not to suggest that we particularly needed

medical attention. There were several magic moments, especially when we camped near Everest and had a clear sunset and full moon to follow. Our last night in China was in a deserted hotel with

pigs as our camp companions so one can imagine the joy of arriving in Nepal and being able to read the signs, see the smartly turned-out police and signs like "Nightingdale English Boarding School".

I could not recommend this 'Roof of the World" yak track for fun or tourism, but I feel proud to have been on the first rally to cross China from north to south and among the first Westerners to drive across China, into Tibet and Nepal across Friendship Bridge which was closed when this rally was first dreamt up. It is a great experience and a good chance to prove what Prince Borghese tried to prove in 1907, that frontiers should

not matter to motorists. One banner in Nepal read Peking and perish. We are determined not to. Most survivors made Delhi and we are on the way to Pakistan.

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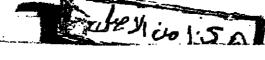
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FINAL CHAPTER 53

Beginning of the end for Deutsche scandal



Anne Ashworth and Patrick Collinson discuss strategy with advisers to 'high net worth individuals'

Where super-rich really, really count

ow many millionaires are there in the UK? Five thousand? Ten The state of the s thousand? The answer is closer to 120,000, with the National Lottery alone producing nearly 500 so far and adding a further two to three every week. Showbusiness also continues to swell the ranks of the super-rich, with the Spice Girls being worth £4 million each at the last estimate.

There are also the members of the new Super Class, the accountants, lawyers and City dealers with carrings of £300,000 plus and bonuses that can exceed their

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> The basic cost per year for

discretionary management, where the investment house relieves you of the burden of making your own decisions, is around 1 per cent of your portfolio, plus VAT, plus

The type of service you can expect depends on how much money you have. If you approach Schroders with a \$200,000 pile, you will be offered a discretionary unit trust service. The firm requires £im before it will run a portfolio of directly-held shares on your behalf.

The high street banks are also keen to have their share of the high net worth individual market, offering fund management services through their Mayfair-based privare banking divisions. Each of these clearing bank subsidiaries feels itself to be superior to its

Barclays Private Bank focuses primarily on the bosses of familyowned businesses, offering them



Spice work if you can get it: the Spice Girls have made it into the ranks of the multimillionaires and are now worth £4 million apiece, according to the latest estimate

corporate advisory services, as well as banking and investment management. Customers who are referred from Barclays branches have an average of £1 million

Coutts, a division of NatWest, offers "integrated wealth management services", that is, banking, investment management and estate planning. The bank, one of the world's leading providers of trusts. targets the wealthy young professional, "with a busy life and complex financial needs".

For those "exceptionally wealthy" customers with assets in excess of \$100 million (£61.73 million), Coutts

offers the de-luxe Latymer Service. Under the terms of a discretionary management service, you give authority to the manager to buy and sell investments on your behalf without obtaining prior approval on each and every occasion. The client can set whatever restrictions he or she wants - such as a ban on

investing in tobacco shares, specific shares which must not be sold and so on. The broker is then free to take advantage of market opportunities as they arise, without having to contact the client and ascertain

A typical £1 million portfolio is likely to be 50-60 per cent invested

in a range of UK shares, with the balance spread between overseas equity and bond markets. As the total sum invested in an individual overseas market is unlikely to be large enough to warrant direct share investment, pooled vehicles such as unit and investment trusts are hought to gain exposure and

diversify risk. The service and administration should also be su-perior to that offered by a unit trust. A contract note is sent every time a transaction is effected, and detailed reviews and valuations are sent on a regular basis. Cash in the portfolio is also managed on an active basis to ensure that high interest rates are obtained.

Above all, the wealthy investor can expect the immediate attention of an investment manager at the other end of the line.

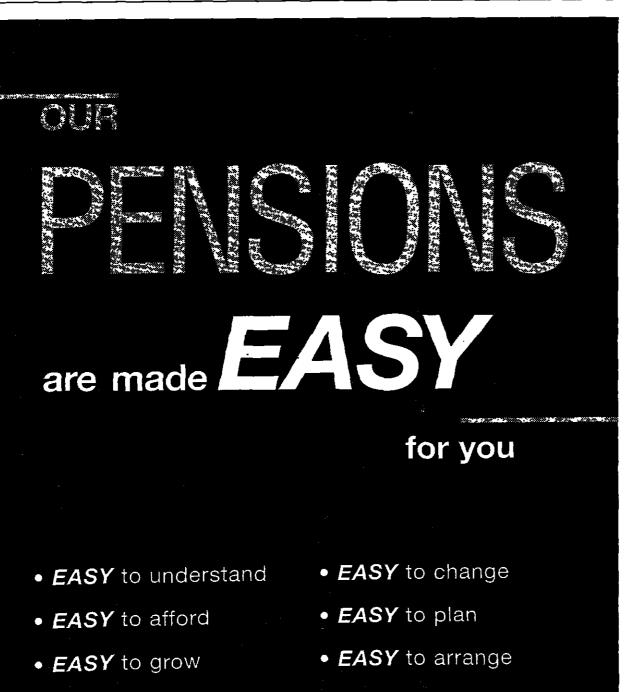
Dean Lush, director of Rothschild's private client division, said: People with these sums of money are understandably upset if they are not treated individually. You mustn't be blase about performance, but you downplay personal service at your peril in this

How much does it cost? Charges are typically a percentage of the total funds under management, with a sliding scale reflecting the amount managed, from around 1 per cent falling to as low as 0.2 per cent per year on large investments. There are also stockbroking commissions for each share purchase or sale which can considerably raise the manager's bill. These will be very high if the manager is a "churn and burn 'eni" man, who frequently switches in and out of investments, so hiding his mistakes and increasing his firm's revenues at the same time.

These fees bring no guarantee of superior performance. There are many tales of those whose fortunes have shrunken while in the care of some blue-blooded firm. Part of the problem may lie in the personnel. It is claimed that first-class minds are kept busy with pension money, while the second-rate are shunted into the private client department.

Previously it was difficult to assess whether a manager was doing a passable or a deplorable job, as there were no published statistics. However, WM, the performance statistics group, now prepares peer group benchmarks that allow investment managers to be compared with the competition.

Who would you trust?, page 52



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Taxpayers told not to panic over looming deadline

sands of people are waiting until the very last minute to fill in selfassessment tax returns. According to the Inland Revenue, only 3.7 million from a total of eight million people had returned their forms by Thursday, Those that fail to meet the deadline of September 30 will have to work out their own tax liability and must submit their forms and payment by January 31. January 31.

The Inland Revenue remains confident that it will receive between four million and 4.8 million self-assessment tax returns by the end of this month.

Those that just miss this deadline, and are relying on the Inland Revenue to work out their tax liability, may not get their tax assessment notices before the end of January. An Inland Revenue spokesman said: "What we have said about those that miss the deadline is that we do not guarantee that we will return the notices by the end of January.

Those that miss this final deadline face an instant £100 fine. They will also be charged 8.5 per cent interest on overdue payments.

The Institute of Chartered

Accountants is warning taxpayers not to panic. It points out that, if taxpayers should miss the end-of-the-month deadline, they can always get an accountant to work out what their tax liability is before the end of January next year. Richard Shooter, of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, said: "There has been a a lot of publicity over the September 30 deadline, but the more important date is

According to a recent survey from Save & Prosper, the investment house, almost half of those people who had received a self-assessment tax return from the Revenue had not yet completed and re-

Almost half of those questioned (40 per cent) said that they already had or would choose an accountant to help them to complete their forms - with nearly one in three people saying that they would be interested in using a specialist tax service.

In response to the findings of this service, Save & Prosper has launched a special service to help people to complete their self-assessment forms. The service costs around £40.

CAROLINE MERRELL

Heroes peep into the sun

panies have, overall, trailed limply behind blue chips in the long Wall Street boom. Now they are at last dancing to centre stage. At least they have been for the past couple of months. That is long enough to set analysts and salesfolk asking whether the same might happen here.

A survey by Baring Asset Management of its offices around the world reveals that small companies have fared as badly in Japan and continental Europe. The bursting of Japan's financial bubble sent investors fleeing for cover in the safest thing they could find. which was not third-line stocks.

On the Continent, also slower to climb out of recession, a representative smaller companies index has lagged big companies by two fifths since 1990. There are lots of tiddlers in badly hit sectors such as retail, property and building, with few in booming sectors such as banking and

ethical drugs. In the UK, stocks worth less than £250 million have been dull rather than disastrous for most of the past three years, since recovering from the last recession. But a big gap has opened since mid-March. Over the past six months the FTSE small capitalisation index has shown no gain, while the FTSE 100 has put on 20 per cent. True, prices have perked up over the past five weeks, but that has merely made good the losses of June and July.

In London, as on the Continent and even in New York, stock market prices have been driven by wholesale investment funds, often buying a country rather than a company. These funds may replicate a blue chip index or focus on a



few favoured sectors. That way lies neglect for more modest domestic outfits that are unlikely to have much interest for big investors beyond their borders.

Naturally, this neglect has been rationalised by analysts. Big multinationals have had more scope to cut costs. more resources to reinvent themselves than the supposedly nimbler small fry. So their profits can keep growing faster than the economies in which they sell, or than companies that rely on their domestic economy. This may explain long-term rerating but hardly the change of fortunes since March.

That underperformance could now make the lesser breed a reasonable eachway bet. If the FTSE 100 flies onward and upward to 7000, as Natwest's Bob Semple projects, smaller stocks should be dragged in the wake by investors looking for something a little cheaper. That is surely what is happening in America. Benign economic conditions help those who need stability most. If stock markets falter, investors may try to distance themselves from the blue chip

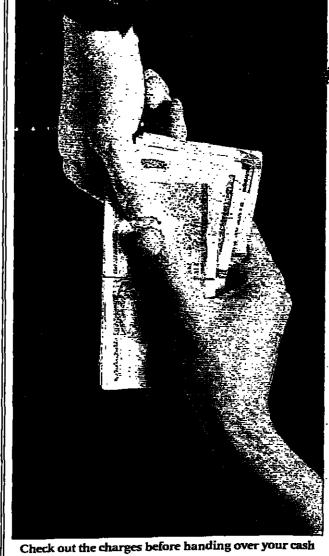
bubble. At least the little chaps do no have so far to fall.

The trouble with such generalities is that there really is no small companies sector and no average company. That is why, for instance. Barings can claim success for its Europe Select Trust when the "sector" has been a dog. The only thing that unites them is not being big. Even that is mere timing. Some are dying giants, others dullards valued chiefly for income. Tomorrow's heroes, the ones we all want to invest in, are always a risky, sought-after minority.

Investing directly in riskier small companies requires homework, or a broker you can trust. There is a strong case for spreading risk in a fund, but even here, since there is no sector, you rely more than usual on a fund manager's skill. Professionals rate Credit Suisse Smaller Companies and Invesco UK Smaller Companies among several decent unit trusts.

s an each-way bet, normal investment trusts have extra appeal. They sell at a cautious average discount of 15 per cent to net market value of their portfolios. The Perpetual and 3i Smaller Companies trusts look sound. Ivory & Sime's UK Smaller Companies and UK Discovery, which is committed to minnows like the AIM Trust, have more speculative appeal. The E3 billion 3i itself offers exposure to lots of unquoted companies but is expensive, swept up in the popularity of banks.

There is plenty of choice in trusts, as in small company shares, but avoid those with oddities in their capital structure. There is enough risk already to offset the



Who would you " trust with your millions?

ven those who have toiled to acquire riches their wealth too much of a responsibility. Millionaires want someone to guide them in their search for an investment manager and call on the

services of an intermediary.

Anthony Yadgaroff, of Allenbridge, a firm of advisers based conveniently in Mayfair, takes as-

piring clients **6** Some firms tour of suitable managers. He may be urges them to research the market thortempted to oughly and to undertake assume responsibility for unnecessary their cash. His most difficult deals 9 task is to lower

people's expectations: "They see advertisements for the top-performing unit trusts and believe that their money can also grow by

20 per cent in a year." Investment management firms will put forward their most charming and personable employee to pitch for the account in the knowledge that the personality of the front man can clinch the deal. But Mr Yadgaroff recommends that his client meets not only the clean-cut marketing man but also the fund manager who will be in charge of the

Mr Yadgaroff also advises a

charges: "It's a little-known fact that some firms of managers have targets for the amounts of stockbroking commissions that they have to earn. This means that they may be tempted to undertake unnecessary deals.

Simon Philip, a partner at Arthur Andersen, the accountancy firm, has the job of guiding Nat-

ional Lottery winners on their invest-He says that, in the majority of cases, the winnings are so huge that winners aren't interested in passing their

be invested in stocks and shares, and leave it in the bank instead. "We are talking about people whose views on finance are very different from people who say, may be investing money made from selling a business Anything that smacks

puts them off." The key thing for most wealthy people, however, is the quality of personal service. Mr Philip said: "You might imagine that investment performance is everything, but personal service is also vital. and more people get sacked for poor service than poor performance.

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LAIR SPEAKING M

Wild child of investment vehicles

A hildren do not always turn out as their parents hope. Kenneth Clarke planned that his brainchild, the corporate bond Pep. would be an unassuming investment. It would appeal to those nervous about shares but disenchanted with build-

SEPTEMBER 27 1947

97 CORVETT

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ing society returns.

The erstwhile Chancellor envisaged that his creation would channel funds into Midlands engineering companies. Instead, the bond Pep has emerged as something of a sophisticate, frolicking Hellos-style on the beach in Barbados, as well as

toiling away in Dudley.

More evidence of this complicated personality can be found in the yields available on bond Peps. From the outset, investors were discouraged from comparing huilding society rates with bond yields because Peps were more risky. Direct comparison would now be extremely difficult, however, as aspiring bond Pep



COMMENT

ANNE ASHWORTH Personal Finance Editor

holders must look at both the running yield and the gross redemption yield. The former shows the current income payout, the latter shows what the income would be if the current portfolio were to remain unchanged. If this figure is smaller than the running yield (now a frequent occurrence) then this sug-gests that the contents of the Pep's portfolio are more speculative than

those that Mr Clarke had in mind (see page 55). Some popular Peps now contain bonds issued by exotic foreign states. The Commercial Union Pep has a holding, albeit small, of Barbadian

More complexities arise when the annual charges are examined. Some managers deduct these from income. others from the capital, a covert way of making the income more eyecatching. The result of all this is that an investment intended to be simple has become something comprehensible only to experts. In 1999 Peps will be replaced by individual savings accounts (Isas), which are also likely to hold bonds. The current Chancellor must ensure that the Isa does not inherit the failings of its predecessor.

Seek good advice

THE infamous Bernie Cornfeld, nov deceased, invented the fund of funds. The concept, though not the Cornfeld rapacity, lives on in the broker fund.

Many reputable advisers refuse to sell these high-charge schemes, arguing that they represent poor value. Others continue this profitable trade, claiming that no one would invest in broker funds if they were not a good deal. Not so. People buy broker funds only because they mistakenly believe

that advisers put clients' interests first. The commission-hungry would surely find a way to circumvent any ban on these investments. The moral is always ask your adviser bow much

Deutsche writes final chapter

The final chapter in a financial scandal that rocked the investment industry more than a year ago was marked this week with a small ad in the press.

It revealed that Deutsche. the German banking group. no longer felt it necessary to guarantee to buy units in three European funds run by Morgan Grenfell, the blue-blooded fund manager. The advertise-ment said: "The lunds have been trading successfully for a considerable period of time." This credit facility was set up by the bank after the suspension of the funds last summer, and the subsequent revelations concerning the activities of the funds' manager, Peter

However, despite the resolution of the investment company's problems in the mind of Morgan Grenfell's owner, not all investors with holdings in the three trusts have been compensated.

Just over a year ago. Mor-gan Grenfell was forced to suspend dealing in the three trusts which were then worth a total of £1.4 billion. The

.

Caroline Merrell reports on the end of a financial

scandal that rocked Britain's investment industry

funds were suspended when it was discovered that they held a high proportion of unquoted stocks. These shares were contributing to extreme volatility in the trusts.

grey area in rules concerning the level of unquoted stocks rey area in rules concerning that unit trusts could hold. When the unquoted stock was investigated by the company and regulators, it was difficult to find. Mr Young was suspended from his £300,000-ayear job and the Serious Fraud Office was called in to investigate. When trading in the funds after the three-day suspension restarted, more than £200 million worth of stock was sold by panic-stricken investors, and the price of units olummeted.

Deutsche Bank stepped in with a credit facility to ensure that the fund had enough cash to meet any redemptions. The bank also bought out £180 million of unquoted stock, and pledged to compensate the Grenfell E450 million. investors for losses. Eventually, five top manag-

ers at Morgan Grenfell were Frances Davies, head of pooled investment, said that there were about 90,000 unit accounts in the three trusts. and while most of the individual accounts have been compensated, some of those that held stock through nominee accounts have yet to receive compensation. Nominee accounts will have more than one investor. For example, Skandia has 40,000 investors who have holdings in the Morgan Grenfell European

compensation. Ms Davies said: "Around £230 million will be paid out in compensation as a whole." She added that 85 per cent of the compensation money had

ALAN WELLER

been handed out. The fiasco

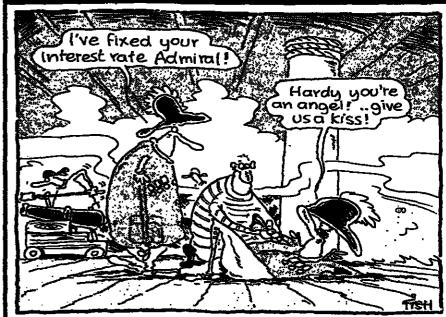
ceived compensation is Antony Levi, a 33-year-old fashion agent. He was paid about £200 compensation on his \$2,000 investment earlier in the year. Savers could either ont for more units in the funds. or choose the cash. He chose the cash. He is, however, continuing to invest money in the trust. He said: "I thought it was better to keep the investment going. I am taking a long-term view. If I reinvested the money elsewhere, then I

new set of charges." He said the performance of his European trust had not been particularly good since the crisis last year, but he had decided to continue to hold it. He holds two other of Morgan Grenfell's unit trusts, which he says have performed much better. "The whole thing would put me off putting all my money

with one fund manager again," he said.

Ms Davies said the whole fund had been substantially rehalanced since Mr Young's suspension. A high proportion of the unquoted stock had been sold. She said: "More than 70 per cent of the fund is now in mainstream quoted stocks." She said the company was working flat out to compensate the remaining investors.

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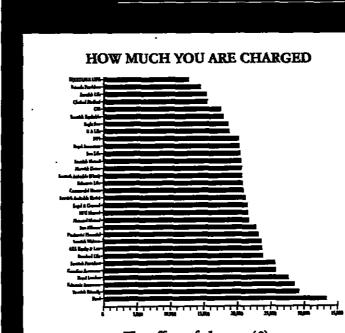
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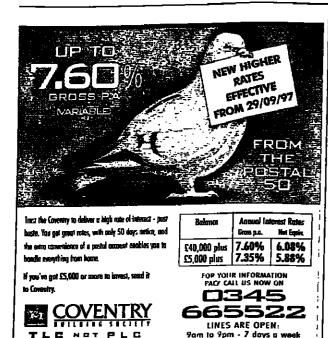
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Borrowers seek amnesty over mortgage debts

Borrowers suddenly being chased for money they owe years after their homes were repossessed and sold at a loss during the recession are to mount a campaign calling for an amnesty for all those

unable to pay their debts. Ronald Severn, whose daughter and son-in-law. Phil and Lesley Mobbs, had their home repossessed by the Cheltenham & Gloucester in 1991, is spearheading the campaign. The Times revealed two months ago that the former building society was chasing the couple for debts totalling nearly £200,000 incurred in the early 1990s, although the family is living on state benefits.

Now Mr Severn says: "We want to bring pressure on all the C&Gs of this world. People are being left in ignorance for five years and the lenders write off the debt only to come alive if they think there's money." Mr Severn has enlisted the help of his MP and is calling on other borrowers to join him. He is

Sara McConnell on a campaign

to stop lenders

acting years later to recover

their money

hoping the Government will put pressure on lenders to back off in cases where borrowers have little hope of paying any of their debt. He stresses he is not demanding that all debts be rescinded but argues that people are being discouraged from re-building their lives and getting jobs because they risk having their money claimed

Phil and Lesley Mobbs are among growing numbers of borrowers who assumed their debts had been written off after their homes were repossessed but are now being pursued by lenders years later. Many people lost their homes through relationship breakdowns or because they lost their jobs as the recession hit. Others believed they could hand in their keys and claim on insurance taken out to cover shortfalls if the property was repossessed and sold. But the policy covers the lender although the borrower pays for it. In most cases. however, the policy covered only part of the shortfall, leaving lenders to pursue

borrowers for the rest.
Since the Mobbses' story was published, Weekend Money has heard of a number of other readers in a similar position. Many have sought the help of solicitors. Tim Pratt of Lloyd & Pratt of Newport. South Wales, writes: "I have heard from two separate clients within a space of about three months that their former lender is trying to recover a shortfall from them after the sale of their home by the lender some five or six years ago. In both cases the debt has been put into the hands of solicitors who have written to the client threatening proceedings to recover the debt but inviting them to give details of their present personal finances and hinting that a one-off lump sum payment at a discount might be accepted in settlement. In one case the lender is the Alliance & Leicester and in the second case the Abbey National."

In another case, Michael Dunn, a Staffordshire building society borrower, contacted his solicitor after receiving a letter out of the blue from a debt collection agency demanding repayment of a shortfall nine years after his home was repossessed. So can lenders do this? Yes,

they can. They have 12 years to chase borrowers for outstanding debts through the courts. How they do it is up to them. Some use debt collection agencies paid on results... Others use tracing agents.
Some trawl regularly
through credit reference records for clues that borrowers' fortunes have changed.

The Council of Mortgage Lenders' statement of practice says only that the lender will notify the borrowereither by letter or by telephone as soon as practicable of the amount of the shortfall". It continues: "The lender and the borrower-will generally agree a repayment arrangement taking into account the borrower's current income and expenditure . . . if the borrower is unwilling to enter into an acceptable voluntary arrangement, the lender may use other enforcement remedies via the courts to seek repayment."

The C&G makes no secret of its policy of "active arrears management". If it has sold a property at a shortfall and failed to get any payment or agreement to pay from the borrower, it will "monitor" the situation for as long as it takes. It will contact borrowers directly and will wait in the wings until it judges that there is more chance of getting a payment.

ther lenders too will keep close tabs on borrowers. The Abbey National says: "We will continue to pursue debts although it must be based on the future possibility of the individual paying. It can take years. It's in everyone's interest to resolve outstanding debts and we will do deals and aim to get a settlement."

The Alliance & Leicester gives warning that it is "not a soft touch". If people refuse to make contact it will send in its solicitors. But it does not hire outside debt collection agencies, choosing to handle negotiations directly. John Caine, Alliance & Leicester's communications director. says: "It would be commercially stupid to have a standoff. We would rather have an ongoing relationship. Retaining existing customers is cheaper than getting new

Woolwich borrowers who try to disappear could be found by tracing agents, says Frank Bartlett, head of group lending, "If people appeared, will look through their file and see if there are other addresses or details, such as an employer's address. If the trail has gone cold we could use tracing agents. Most have been dealt with within a couple of years and there wouldn't have been a conscious decision to

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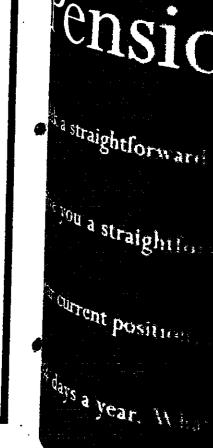
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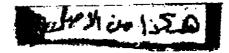
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Shore thing, but CU's personal equity plan holds a small amount of highly speculative Barbadian and Mexican bonds

Age Concern joins the world of corporate bonds

nvesting in corporate bond Peps became cheaper this week with new deals from Legal & General and, surprisingly, Age Con-cern, However, disturbing signs have emerged that some fund managers may be risking

search for a high income. Investors have poured some E3 billion into corporate bond Peps since their introduction just two years ago, attracted by the chance to earn about 7.5 per cent income tax-free while keeping their capital secure. So far investors have done well out of most corporate bond Peps. According to Micropal. a statistics provider, only one of the 39 corporate bond Peps around two years ago has failed to provide a positive return on a £6,000 investment (the maximum you can put in a Pep in one tax year).

Investors in Aberdeen Global Bond Pep, however, have basi-cally been handed their money back since August 1995. Even if they reinvested the £579 of income back into the fund, they have still been left nursing a £26 loss, a dismal performance. Another seven Peps distributed modest amounts of income but left investors with a capital loss. For instance, investors who put £6,000 in the NPI High Income Bond two years ago would have had E824 income but would have only £5.856 of capital left in the Pep. This kind of capital loss can be a problem because it means there is a smaller pot of

money left to generate money. This still leaves 31 funds that have achieved their aims. Strangely, top of the pack is another fund in the Aberdeen stable. Aberdeen Fixed Interest has actually added £695 of capital and handed out over £1,300 of income. Other strong performers achieving the double whammy of income and capital growth have been M&G Corporate Bond, Hen-derson Preference & Bond and Commercial Union Monthly

Income Plus. The latter has just been chosen by Age Concern to be its first foray into financial services. Commercial Union's corporate bond Pep is currently yielding a high 7.96 per cent. Gavin Lumsden finds some

managers risking fund capital

6 If investors

die within five

years, CU

will return

the stake to

the estate **9**

and is one of the few Peps to pay monthly. Because of this service the Pep has been relatively expensive. Age Concern, however, has got the insurer to halve its initial fee to 2 per cent and throw in some cover. If investors die within five years of taking out the Pep. CU will return the original investment to their estate. Its annual charge, however, remains at 1.25 per cent. Contact: 0800 455 400.

Legal & General also did its bit for investors this week when it renamed its Extra Income Profile Pep simply Corporate Bond Pep and slashed the annual charge from 1.25 per cent to 0.5 per cent. As there was no initial charge it is

now cheapest corporate bond Pep available. Its nearest rivals are Virgin Fidelity Moneybuilder Income which both charge a 0.7 per cent an-

Low charges

nual fee.

their money without taking on more risk. Cutting the annual fee by 0.75 per cent has enabled L&G to raise the yield on its Corporate Bond Pep by a similar amount to 7.5 per cent. If it had raised the yield without lowering the charges it would have had to target higher yielding stocks, which are inevitably more risky. In spite of their name corporate bond Peps can invest in a wide range of assets, some of which are more risky than others, and mix overseas stock with more familiar UK investments. In addition to bonds, many of these Peps will include preference shares, which aim to pay a higher dividend

to investors, and convertibles.

bonds which can be converted

into shares at certain times.

Pensioners might be interested to learn that Commercial Union's Pep holds a small amount of highly speculative Barbadian and Mexican bonds as well as some worthless paper from Barings, the bank which had to be rescued after being sunk hy Nick Leeson, the derivatives trader.

A good way of checking how much risk the fund manager is taking is to look at the difference between a Pep's gross redemption yield (GRY) and its running yield. The GRY, also known as the estimated total yield, shows what yield would be produced if the portfolio was left unchanged. The running yield shows how much income the Pep is cur-

rently producing. If the running yield is much higher in the future. Most corporate bond Peps have a GRY about 0.5 to 0.7

per cent high-er than the allow investors to get more for their money without taking on A few, however, have a much wider difference and might be worth avoiding.

According to Baronworth Investment Services, a financial adviser which monitors corporate bond Peps, GT Global's High Yield Pep currently has a GRY of 4.88 per cent and a running yield of 7.21 per cent. nearly five times the gap that most of its competitors have. GT Global explained it was because it takes its I per cent annual management fee from the fund's capital rather than the income it produces. Charging to capital is controversial among financial advisers because it is an artificial way of boosting the amount of income investors receive and

can endanger capital. Mike Webb, the company's

the company's practice, although he agreed there was an increased risk to holders' original investment. "We launched the Pep for people with an income requirement and are delivering that income in the most tax-efficient way. The benefit of charging to capital is that we do not have to go for as high-yielding stocks as those Peps which charge to income in order to generate our yield."

He calculated that the running yield was 6.25 per cent before charges were taken, much closer to the GRY figure. To be fair, the Pep is actually in the top 20 of corporate bond Peps delivering income and capital growth. Mr Webb said this reflected the fact that it only invested in A-graded stocks, the top band of

evertheless, concerns remain. Britannia Fund Managers' Gilt & Fixed Interest Pep charges the same fees to capital as GT and has a yield differential of nearly 1.2 per cent, itself a relatively high figure but much better than GT's. Britannia says the running yield has risen recently after an increased investment in corporate bonds.

Equally worrying is the Murray Corporate Bond, which in spite of charging to income has a running yield of 8.89 per cent, the highest among all corporate bond Peps, and 1.5 per cent higher than its GRY.

Richard Eliott Lockhart of Murray Johnstone, the fund manager, denies that the company is taking too much risk in its search for income. He says many of the bonds it holds have seen prices fall and yields rise after recent tax changes which have forced City institutions to become sellers.

Whatever the reason, investing in bonds is a complicated business. If you are not seeking particularly high income you are probably best picking a low-cost corporate bond Pep from a fund manager with a track record that takes its fees from the income before passing it on to you.

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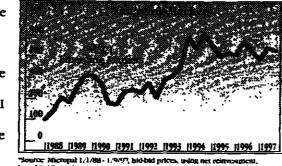
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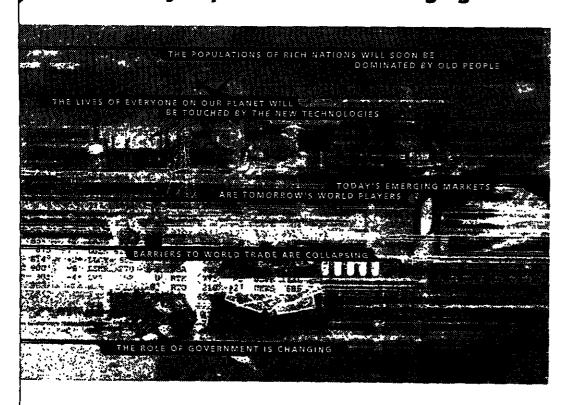
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Clare Stewart explains the science of investment disciplines





George Soros, left, and Warren Buffett, masters of investment, relish the opportunities when markets are uncertain

eorge Soros made a mint betting against the pound in 1992. The famed investor Warren Buffett has cleaned up on numerous occasions to make him one of the wealthiest men in the US.

These and others, such as the late Sir James Goldsmith, who have emerged with pots of gold after forays into the stock market or foreign currency speculation, are frequently described as modernday alchemists.

Rather like alchemy of the medieval variety, the assumption is often that there is some big secret out there waiting to be discovered. Once you have cracked it, runs the thinking. you can expect to be rich as Croesus as your investments soar in value.

But alchemy, whether using ancient or modern techniques. can be rather more complex. So much depends on adding just the right amount of leg of toad or wing of bat to the cauldron, and making sure you get the gas mark setting

Stock market science is a complex discipline with numerous areas of specialisation, all of which try to understand and, as far as possible, anticipate key movements in share prices and so provide pointers as to when to pile in and when to sell up.

Traditionally, analysts have come to their conclusions about the value of a share based on a detailed evaluation

Alchemy for the 20th century Chartists focus on changes that are driven by the actions

of a wide spread of investors.

so are less interested in why investors are choosing a par-

ticular share to buy or sell

than when such trading is

taking place and at what price.

Such observations are ex-

pressed as charts showing

price movements in linear or

A number of patterns within

price movements have been

identified, which, on the basis

of past experience, may indi-

cate that a rising share price is

about to peak or that it has

bottomed out, hence it is the

time to buy or sell that

cipline, has numerous theo-

rists. One particular theory

that is often referred to is value

investment. In recent times this

has been most identified with

Warren Buffett, who turned

In 1965, when Mr Buffett

expensive on the US stock

Investment, as with any dis-

bar-chart form.

particular stock

INVESTMENT FOR **BEGINNERS**

of the company's performance. But technical analysts or chartists tend to look at the price first and the explanation after. They look at trends in a company, sector, foreign currency or even the whole stock market's price movement as the basis of their research, working from the assumption that past movements provide the basis for predicting the future, and that long-term patterns can be identified.

Guides such as the Schwartz Stock Market Handbook, (Burleigh Publishing, 01453 731173, price £22.95), for example, provide a month-bymonth guide to stock market trends which highlight the

Berkshire Hathaway, his inmonths that have proved the vestment vehicle, from a strugmost and least profitable for eling textile husiness to a conglomerate where profits last year soared to \$2.49 billion. took control of Berkshire Hathaway, its shares were traded at about \$18; today its

> market, trading at more than \$40.000 each. Such is his influence that his current \$2 billion move into US Treasury bills rattled investors, who saw it as a precautionary manoeuvre ahead of a fall on the highflying stock market. His reput-

ares are among

which means looking for companies offering real value that have been overlooked by general buying trends in the market, to look for high earnings and to take a long-term view on shareholdings.

The Sage of Omaha's foresight was shown this week by the \$1.4 billion profit he turned on his stake in Salomon, the US investment bank.

His demonstrably successful approach stands out against the short-termism often seen among speculators and the proverbial City trader solely focused on securing the next bonus package.

Mr Buffett is unconcerned by sudden changes in the stock market. "Investors should love volatility. You like huge swings in the market because that means more stocks will be mispriced. It opens up opportunities." he told his company's annual meeting this year.

Soros, is another figure awarded guru status among investors. In 1992 he hit the headlines when his betting against sterling saw the pound knocked out of the European exchange-rate mechanism and netted him around El billion.

Now he is involved in a row with the Prime Minister of Malaysia over the activities of currency speculators in the unstable Asian currency markets. He also made news speaking at the International Monetary Conference this week, when he gave warning of an end to the current boom on global stock markets.

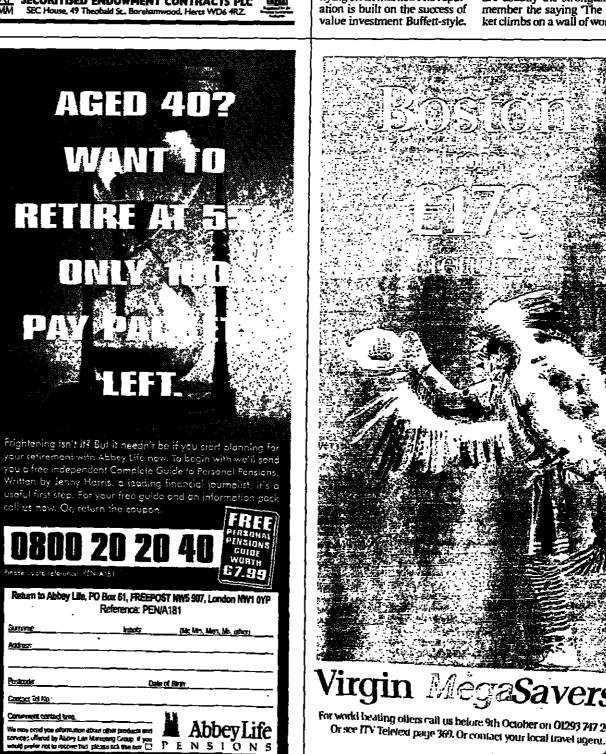
Mr Soros's brand of investment science bases decisions on the bigger picture - not on individual stocks but on currency changes and market fluctuations.

He is associated with spotting opportunities at the bottom and top of the market or currency cycles. He says: "I am particularly keen on investment theses that the market is reluctant to accept. These are usually the strongest, Remember the saying The market climbs on a wall of worry"."



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ost parents would do anything to protect their children. Yet 2.5 million children in Britain are treated in hospital for accidental injury each year. Of these, 10,000 suffer a permanent disability. Now Cigna, the insurance com-pany, is offering accidental injury insurance for children.

The insurer does not claim that its policy. Firstcover, will even begin to compensate for a serious injury, nor will it pay for private medical treatment. But it says that a cash payment can help a family to cope with the stress and extra costs which can occur once medi-cal treatment is finished. The parents may have to take unpaid leave from work, pay for childcare while they make hospital visits or

even make modifications to their home to cater for the injured child. Firstcover costs £2.75 a month for one child, or £5 a month for all the children in the family, which is hardly going to break the bank. But it is still worth considering exactly what cover policyholders get for their money. The policy pays 540 for each day that the insured child spends in hospital.



up to a maximum of 365 days. It also pays out single sums of cash for permanent disabilities of varying severity. For example, 52,000 for facial disfigurement (where the scars affect at least 20 per cent of the face). £10,000 for loss of a finger or big toe and £25,000 for a thumb. Blindness in one eye, total loss of hearing in both ears or a leg below the knee will result in a payout of £50,000.

The maximum payout of E100,000 is for loss of (or loss of the use of) a leg above the knee, a hand or arm, total blindness in both eyes, total organic paralysis and total loss of intellectual capacity.

These benefits seem competitive compared to similar products on the market. However, it excludes dental damage - an injury that is relatively common and likely to incur costs for the parents.

Chris Latham, a chartered insurance practitioner with Byrne Williams, independent financial advisers, thinks Firstcover is a good buy. But he adds: "Adult accident policies often extend free cover to children. It is worth parents checking if their policies already cover their children."

Mohan Moorjani, a member of DBS, the independent financial advisory network, says that parents may find it more costeffective to buy hospital cash cover for the whole family from a company such as HSA, rather than buying an individual policy for the children.

Score: *** Products graded from ★ (poor), to ★★★★ (outstanding).

JILL INSLEY



Playboy financier Bernie Cornfeld, who was dubbed "king of the fund of funds", liked to live the high life

Product offers double whammy of charges

controversial investment funds that often combine poor value with lousy performance.

Broker funds are effectively "funds of funds" run by independent financial advisers (IFAs) on behalf of their clients. The fund of funds concept was invented by Bernie Cornfeld, the financier, in the late Sixties. However, because they are a portfolio of funds or unit trusts, the individual investor pays two sets of management charges — one levied by the life company and the other by the IFA.

The Personal Investment Authority. the watchdog for small investors, is expected to warn advisers at the end of next month that it intends to tighten up the way such funds are sold.

The funds are so controversial that some IFAs refuse to sell them, saying it is impossible to pretend to be impartial while recommending a product of their own, Graham Hooper, of Chase de Vere Investments, said the double layer of management charges, which often amounts to 3 per cent per annum, is the real headache for investors. He said some funds had already gone out of husiness after the PIA's announcement earlier this year that it was reviewing existing regulations.

Mr Hooper said: "These funds would have to perform very well to beat other funds which do not have such high charges. Unfortunately broker funds not only have double fees, they also underperform. We made a decision not to have our own broker fund because we felt it would prevent us from being impartial in our advice if we recommended it."

As the small investors' watchdog prepares to tighten up on the sale

of 'funds of funds', **Marianne Curphey**

assesses their future

Richard Cockroft, head of market practice and training and competence at the PIA, denied that the PIA intended to put any funds out of business.

"Not all funds have poor performance," he said. "What we want to do is raise the standards of those in the market." The board of the PIA is expected to issue a statement of policy on the issue by the end of October but this will not be legally binding. Any statutory regulations would have to be introduced separately. Mr Cockroft said.

However, Amanda Davidson, a partner with Holden Meehan, the IFA, was sceptical about the concept of broker funds providing good value. We do not offer them. I believe the attraction for the advisers who do sell them is that they provide a regular income for the IFA involved." Another problem with the funds is

that they are not tax-efficient Mr Hooper said: "Personal equity plans are much better for investors because they are free of income and capital

Stephen Lansdown, joint managing director of the Bristol-based IFA Hargreaves Lansdown, does offer one

"mixed feelings" about the concept. Clients want advisers to manage their funds for them and switch into and out of sectors to gain the best returns. It makes sense for them to carry out transactions on a pooled basis and as long as the charges are transparent I do not see why they should be banned from the market altogether.

"If their performance is poor, clients

should vote with their feet and go somewhere else. It is wrong for the PIA to act as judge and jury."

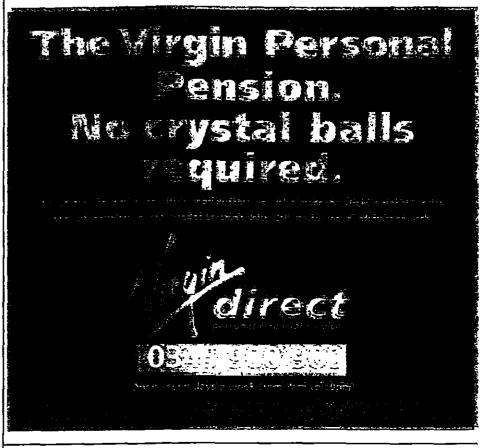
Investors who want to check whether their funds are offering a good or a bad deal can use a yardstick such as the FTSE 100 index or average of UK managed funds.

Chase de Vere has made a comparison of broker funds over a five-year period and has found that even the best performers trail managed life funds. For example, for the five years to the end of August, this year, broker funds returned an average of £1,723 com-

pared with an average return of £1.936.

According to HSW Hindsight, a company which provides statistical information on trusts and funds, the ' rung, from Albany, returned £2,119 on an initial investment over five years, while the top managed life fund, Reliance, returned £2,632 over the same period. The figures are based on an initial investment of £1,000 with income reinvested.

The broker fund from Royal & SunAlliance Charles Stanley gave investors a return of £2,021 over the same period, compared with the Hambro Assured managed fund which returned £2,394.



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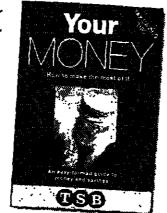
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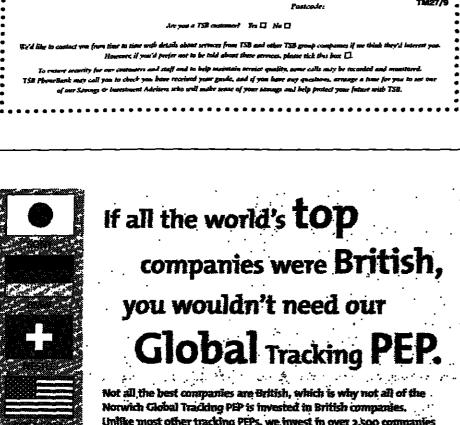
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John Givens highlights important issues for people starting up their own business

B ecoming self-employed involves keeping many people happy Taxing times for people happy, no one more so than the taxman. Most people who have made the self-employed the leap from the relative comfort of being on someone else's payroll to being respon-sible for each penny of income will know there are many things to worry about on setting up a business, particularly in the early months.

position and what the Inland Revenue expects of you before you start your new business should be made a priority. Not only will it make you more confident about being self-employed, but it will also free couple's allowance of £1,830 a amount of tax you owe the your mind and time to concen-

year which can be claimed by the husband, wife or split between the two and gives tax relief at a rate of 15 per cent.

This means a married taxpayer claiming the allowance would have their tax bill reduced by a set amount of £274.50 a year, or £22.87 a month. After your personal allowance has been taken into account, the first £4,100 of taxable income is charged at the lower rate of 20p in the pound, which means as an unmarried person you can earn £8,145 a year before you start to pay tax at the standard rate. currently 23p in the pound.

All your earnings are taxed standard rate on income of between £4,101 and £26,100 a year. After this earnings attract tax at a higher rate, 400 in the pound. By adding in your personal allowance of £4,045 this effectively means you will only become a higherrate taxpayer if you earn more than £30,145 in a tax year.

EXPENSES

Self-employed taxpayers can offset certain expenses against income tax, which means at Inland Revenue will be calculated on your business profits rather than just earnings.

These costs are known as revenue expenditure and refer to the day-to-day running costs of your business.

The inland Revenue states that to be allowable for tax purposes this expenditure must be incurred wholly and exclusively for the purpose of your business and as a rule of thumb if you can answer yes to the question "would I have this expense if I was not carrying on my business?" then the chances are you are not allowed to claim it against tax.

Obvious business expenses lighting and telephone bills. advertising expenses and travel costs and you can deduct the total of all these payments from your annual income before you calculate your tax

Other expenses are not so straightforward, however. For example, the taxman will allow you to claim the cost of entertaining staff but not customers and normal domestic expenses like food and clothing are strictly off the menu for

from home rather than an office, you can claim a portion of household expenses such as rent, rates, council tax, telephone bills and heating and lighting against income tax, although you will need to satisfy the Inland Revenue that the percentage you claim is a reasonable reflection.

RECORDS

Everyone who is self-employed must keep records of all income and expenditure to show the taxman. If you don't you may end up paying more tax than you need to or, worse still, the Inland Revenue may launch a full-scale investigation into your business's tax

DEADLINES

Under the new self-assessment system you are obliged to fill in a tax return every come and expenditure.

After this you have two options. If you want the taxman to calculate your tax bill for you then you must make sure your completed tax forms are sent to the inland Revenue by September 30 in the year following the end of the tax year on April 5.

If you want to calculate your tax liability by yourself, you have until January 31. If you are having problems with your form this weekend, ring the Institute of Chartered Accountants for free basic advice (0171-920 8683).

set bett

When you become self-employed you will also be respon-sible for paying your own national insurance.

The self-employed pay two types of national insurance: Čĺass 2 and Class 4. Class 2 payments are the basic flat-rate contributions, currently £6.15 a week. Class 4 contributions are based on profits between £7,010 and E24,170 a year and charged at a flat rate of 6 per cent.

Class 2 payments can be paid every quarter or by direct every month, while Class 4 contributions are calculated at the end of the tax year when your business profts are known. How much national insurance you pay will affect your right to claim state allowances in the future.

VAT

You need to register for VAT only if your annual turnover is more than £48.000. If you are VAT registered you will need to add value added tax -- currently 17.5 percent — on to all the invoices you issue to people who have bought from you, unless your business deals in VAT, like food or books.

The VAT office will ask for a VAT return every three months and you must pay promptly the amount of VAT you have added to your invoices during the quarter. If you have bought supplies where you have been charged VAT, you can claim this back by offsetting the amount against your tax bill or asking the VAT office for a cheque if you have paid out more VAT

Selling you

endowment pr

than you have charged customers.



Call in the professionals

mma Bagnall knew exactly how she would cope with her potential tax minefield when she became self-employed at the beginning of April - she called in an accountant.

trate on other important

Taking responsibility for your own taxation can be

daunting and complicated, al-

though with a little bit of time

The Inland Revenue has

teamed up with the VAT Office

and the National Insurance

Contributions Agency to pro-

duce an easy to understand

booklet called Starting Your

Own Business? It outlines the

basic rules relating to income

tax, national insurance contri-

butions and VAT, giving you

all the information you need to

know to get your business up

to let the Revenue know that

ALLOWANCES

Self-employed people are enti-

tled to claim the same tax

allowances as those who are

employed and have their tax

affairs looked after by their

company. Everyone can earn

up to £4,045 in a tax year -

which runs from April 6 until

April 5 the next year - without

paying any income tax at all. In addition there is a married

you are self-employed.

and effort it need not be.

The 32-year-old graphic artist decided to turn freelance after she was made redundant by a tabloid national newspaper after just four months. She was concerned that during the 1996-97 tax year she had worked as an employee, earned other freelance income and spent a period of time not earning at all when she was studying in

Rather than face the trauma of explaining this to the taxman, she decided to leave it to the professionals.

After handing over expense

receipts and details of her income, Emma, of Stoke Newington, London, let her accountant get on with things. She said: "I don't understand all the ins and outs of how to calculate my tax, although

I have a fairly good idea. "However, my situation was slightly complicated, so I thought I would get an accountant to do my tax return for me, it saved a lot of trouble and effort and made sure I got what I am entitled to and pay the right amount of tax."

Emma, who is currently on assignment at Cover, the newly launched general interest maga-zine, paid £240 for the service and is now expecting a rax refund. although her accountant has told her this is likely to be in the region of £80 and not the £2,000 she had

hoped for. Also, like a lot of selfemployed people. Emma needs to reassess her pension arrangements now she is going it alone. Although she took out a person-

al pension with Friends Provident when she was 25, paying net contributions of E100 a month, this was frozen when she joined the occupational scheme of a former employer and she has yet to restart her contributions. She is also looking at the need to

insure herself against being unable to work because of illness or accident, with permanent health insurance and critical illness cover being considered to provide an income if the worst came to the



JOHN GIVENS Bagnall: tax calculations proved complicated

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Get better value when you buy your annuity

Marianne Curphey looks at the options for people

who are approaching retirement and are ready to draw their pensions

hoosing the right pension is diffi-cult enough, but once you are close to retirement another difficult financial decision awaits: how and when do you choose an annuity?

An annuity is a contract for an insurer to supply a regular stream of income from the retirement fund you have built up over your working lifetime. Most annuities have an "open market option", which allows you to buy a pension annuity from any company you choose.

However, many insurance companies offer poor-value pension annuities. They get away with it because prospective pensioners are unaware that they can shop around for the best deal. Annuity Direct, an independent adviser based in London, calculates that annuities provided by top companies pay up to 40 per cent more income than those from the worst companies, although the difference is often around 15 per cent.

If you have a final salary scheme with your employer, you do not need to worry about an annuity because the scheme will pay you lifelong monthly benefits. How-ever, if your pension is run as a money purchase scheme, in which your contributions and those of your employer have built up an individual fund, you need to buy an annuity. This also applies to personal pensions and to plans into which you paid additional voluntary contributions.

Money purchase schemes are becoming increasingly popular, and below we look at the options available if you are in one of these schemes and need to shop around for a pension annuity.

How does an aunumy not a how much tax-free eash can I take? How does an annuity work and

An annuity is a contract with the All annually is a symmetry pays you insurance company which pays you a regular income until you die in return for the pot of money you have handed over. The older you are when you buy your annuity, the higher the level of income paid by the annuity.

The insurance company is effectively betting that you will die before your fund is exhausted. Your income comes from a mixture of investment returns on the fund and capital from the fund itself. If you die before the capital is exhausted, the insurance company gets to keep the remainder.

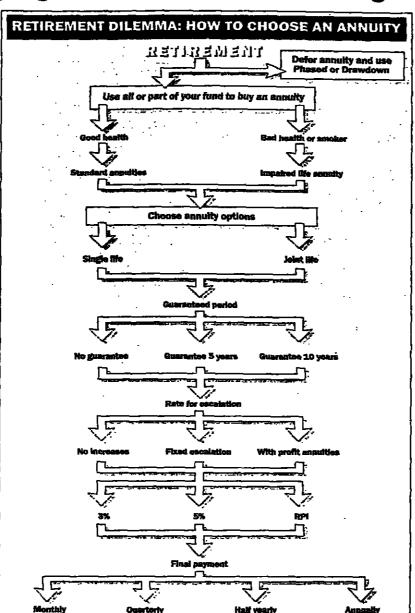
With a personal pension the tax-free cash you are allowed to take is 25 per cent of the accumulated fund. For selfemployed pensions before July 1988, the tax-free cash will depend on your age.

The income you receive from the remainder of the fund once you have taken your tax-free cash is taxed in the same way as earned income, so you pay tax at your highest rate.

Is an annuity the only option for the fund I have built up?

No. you can up to be, ____ drawdown plan which lets you take No, you can opt to buy an income cash from your plan every year, or you can go for a phased retirement plan.

Pension drawdown allows you to delay buying an annuity up to the age of 75. You can withdraw up to 10 per cent of the value of your fund every year. If you die,



the capital returns to your estate. Any taxfree cash which is to be taken must be paid out at the start. This option gives you flexibility over the amount of income you draw. The risk is that while you are delaying the purchase of your annuity. the stock market may fall. This would affect the value of the funds you were holding in your pension por. You have to buy an annuity at age 75.

Phased retirement allows you to buy a number of smaller annuities at different times. This is useful to people who want to retire from work gradually. Each year you take a proportion of tax-free cash and a proportion of your annuity. This method is tax-efficient and your beneficiaries will receive any money left over.

The drawback is that you are leaving the bulk of your savings in equity-based investments, and although they may return 20 per cent or more in a good year. there may also be years when the stock

Does the income paid rise in line with inflation?

Only if you request it. If you choose an index-linked annuity, payments in the early years of the contract's life will be lower. You need to be in good health to benefit from the higher payments which will be paid in the years to come. There is no point in forgoing benefits in the early years if your health is bad.

William Burrows, of Annuity Direct.

says these annuities are useful for people who are worried about the effects of inflation. "Whether you choose this option depends very much on your personal circumstances," he says. "If both a husband and a wife buy an annuity at age 65, at least one of them is likely to be alive in 20 years' time, when a sum that seems large now will have been eroded by inflation."

As an example, an escalating annuity which increases payments by 5 per cent per annum, or which is linked to the retail price index (RPI), is likely to reduce your initial income by one third. It takes about ten years for payments from an escalating annuity to catch up with those from a level

What can I do if my health is poor and how do I shop around?

Impaired life annuities are available Impaired the annutures are available for people who have a medical condition or who smoke. The initial payments are much higher for people with a heart condition, diabetes and high blood pressure. Such annuities are provided by the Pensions Annuity Friendly Society and Sun Life.

The best annuity rates are quoted in Weekend Money. You can buy direct or use an annuity broker such as the Annuity Bureau, Annuity Direct and William Burrows's new advisory service. Mr Burrows recommends Prudential, Canada Life, Equitable Life, Sun Life of Canada and Norwich Union.

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THE TIMES MONEY INFORMATION SERVICE

Surf the Net with help of Which?

f you are hesitant about surfing the Net, the latest publication from Which? Ltd could help. The Which? Guide to the Internet, priced £9.99, unravels the Net's complexities by explaining what it can do and what the jargon really means. As well as describing how you can per-form basic tasks, the guide-book outlines how to choose between the numerous services and software packages available. Which? says that the book will also help users to understand Net etiquette how to be courteous to other travellers on the information superhighway. More advanced uses of the Net are explored, for example the ways in which businesses can benefit. Included with the book is a 30-day trial for Which? Online, providing independent consumer infor-mation on CD-Rom. The cost of the book will be refunded if the Online service is sub-scribed to. Call Which? Ltd on

Coventry Building Society has raised its savings rates for the second time this month. Rate increases will apply on its two postal accounts, with effect from Monday. For customers with an investment of

more than £5.000 in a Post 50 Account, the rate is no 7.35 per cent, a rise of 0.10 p cent. For those investing mor than £40.000, a rate of 7.60 p cent gross per amnum will paid. Minimum investment £5,000 and 50 days' notice required for withdrawal First Instant Postal Accoun annual rates have been creased from 7.00 to 7.10 p cent gross per annum. withdrawal restrictions appi Cali 0345 665522.

☐ Yorkshire Bank has also improved its rates on four savings accounts with immediate effect. The new gross rates on the Premium Plus account are as follows: below £5.000 - 3 per cent (no change), £5,000 to £9,999 — 5.30 per cent (0.30 per cent increase), £10,000 to £24,999 -6.25 per cent (up 0.40 per cent), £25,000 to £49,999 - 6.40 per cent (up 0.45 per cent), £50,000 to E) million — 6.60 per cent (up 0.40 per cent). Other customers affected by the rate rises are Three Month Premium and Instant Access/ Cashmaster account holders. Rates on the Yorkshire Bank Tessa have risen 0.25 per cent

at each investment tier.

LIZANNE ROSE

Direct Line 0181 680 9966

Hamilton Direct Bank 0800 303000

Alliance & Leic Grp 0990 626262

INSTANT ACCESS ACCOUNTS	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interes pai
Sainsbury's Bank 0500 405060	Inst Access	Instant	£1	6.50	Y
C&G 0800 742437	Inst Transfer	Instant b	£1,000	7.00	YI
Coventry BS 0345 665522 Alliance & Leicester 0845 6088860	First Instant First Cls Inst	Postal Postal	25,000 £10,000	7.10 7.50	Y1 Y1 Y1
		Natice			Interes
NOTICE ACCOUNTS & BONDS	Account	of term	Deposit	Rate	pai
Leeds & Holbeck BS 0500 225777	Albion 30	30 day p	£10,000	7.15	Y
Chelsea BS 0800 132351	POST—tel 40	40 day p	25,000	7.30	Y1 Y1 Y1
Coventry B\$ 0345 665522	Postal 50	50 day p	£5,000	7.35	Y
Legal & General Bank 0500 111200	60 Direct	60 day p	£10,000	7.60	
		Notice			Interes
FIRST TESSAS (TAX FREE)	Account	of term	Deposit	Rate	pai
Principality BS 01222 344188		5 year	£2,500	7.65	Y
Hanley Economic BS 0800 838811		5 year	2500	7.60	YI YI YI YI
Sun Banking Corp 01438 744505		5 уеаг	£3,000	7.60	Y
Investec Bank (UK) 0171 203 1650	Premier+feeder	5 year	£9,000	7.55	Y

Invested Bank (UK) 0171 203 1650	Premier+teader 5	year 139	,000 7.5	עוז כ
VSA CRE	DIT CARDS BE	ST BUYS		
CREDIT CARDS	Card type	Interest per month	APR%	Fee per annum
Capital One Bank 0800 669000 Co-operative Bank 0800 109000 Robert Fleming/S&P 0800 829400	Visa Advantage Visa Base rt inkd M/V	0.64%N 0.64%NC 1.00%C	7.90%N 7.90%N 12.70%	Nil Nil Nil
£?	ONAL LOANS B	EST BUY		
PERSONAL LOANS	APR	Monthly payme with insurance	ent on £5,00	0 for 3yrs insurance

NB. A = Minimum age 22 years, B = Withdrawals via Bank Clearing System, C = no interest free period, N \approx introductory rate for a limited period, P = By Post only * RATES SHOWN ARE GROSS AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE PLEASE CHECK RATES BEFORE INVESTING

12.80%A

12.90%

13.30%

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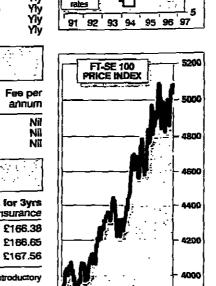
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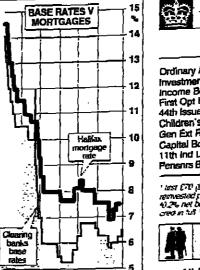
£187.73

Building Societies

Chelsea 0800 291291

Source: Money Facts, the Monthly Guide to Investment & Mongage Rates (01692 500 677)





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	- 5000
	- 4800
	4600
	4400
	4200
W.	4000
Oct Dec Feb Apr Jun Aug	3800

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First Opt Bond4 6.25 5.00 3.751,000-20,000**
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Capital Bonds 6 6.65 5.32 3.99 100-250,000 8day 0845 645000 11th Ind Linkedth 2.75
Pensnis Bond S3 6 7.00 5.60 4.20 500-50,0006 60day 0845 848000 inst ETO (ET40 if) of int tax free, inst acus for up to E100 * Unlimited additional hidgs for remeasted proceeds. *Tax free. *Rales gross and vible Javaranteed when held for 5 years remeasted proceeds. *Tax free. *Rales gross and vible Javaranteed when held for 5 years.

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purchase), guaranteed 5 years, paid monthly in advance							
		Age 65	Age 70				
	£ 9,534	£10,462	£11,675				
	£ 9,224	£10,316	£11,732				
	£ 9,177	£10,270	£11,757				
	£ 9,135	£10,257	£11,772,				
	£ 9,137	£10,195	£11,635				
Female:	Age 60	Age 65	Age 70				
	£8,643	£ 9,457	£10,649				
	£8,443	£ 9,370	£10,644				
	£8,470	£ 9,293	£10,491				
	£8,595	£ 9,291	£10,260				
	£8,491	£ 9,226	£10,315				
Male:	Age 60	Age 65	Age 65				
Female:	Age 55	Age 60					
	£8,246	£8,862	£ 9,742				
	£8,277	£8,813	£ 9,547				
	£8,033	£8,667	£ 9,559				
	£7,965	£8,620	£ 9,517				
	£8,075	£8,619	£ 9,404				
	Male:	Male: Age 60 £ 9,534 £ 9,224 £ 9,177 £ 9,135 £ 9,137 Fernale: Age 60 £8,643 £8,470 £8,695 £8,491 Male: Age 60 Fernale: Age 55 £8,246 £9,277 £8,033 £7,965	### Age 60 Age 65 £ 9,534 £10,462 £ 9,224 £10,316 £ 9,177 £10,270 £ 9,135 £10,257 £ 9,137 £10,195 ### Fernale: Age 60 Age 65 £8,643 £ 9,457 £8,443 £ 9,370 £8,470 £ 9,293 £8,695 £ 9,291 £8,491 £ 9,226 ### Male: Age 60 Age 65 ### Fernale: Age 55 Age 60 £8,246 £8,862 £8,277 £8,813 £8,033 £8,667 £7,965 £8,620				

Lender	Interest rate_%	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societ	ies			
Newbury	4.85	£15-100k	95	3% discount for
01635 43676				1 year
Mansfield	2.20	£25-250k	90	6% discount-6 mth
01246 202055				Further dsc apply
Clay Cross	5.25	£15-100k	95	3% discount for
01246 862120				1 year
Banks		50e 44E		F. 10 4
Bnk of ireland	0.99	£20-145k	95	Fixed 6 mths
01189 510100	5 45	205 050	~-	3% disc 6 mths
Halifax plc 01422 333333	5.45	£25-250k	95	3% disc-30.9.99, 0.5%oversvr-10.04

Statistics compiled by Lizznne Rose

Larger lendars, loans, and first-time buyers tables by Blay's Guides Ltd (1)1753 880482,

GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS ANNUAL INCOME Rates as at September 25, 1997

Investment (£)	Company	Rate (%)
1.000	Hambro Assured	5.05
5,000	AIG Life	6.27
10,000	GE Fin Assur	6.75
1.000	Hambro Assured	5.60
10,000	Hambro Assured	6.40
20,000	Hambro Assured	6,55
50,000	Hambro Assured	6.61
1,000	Hambro Assured	5,70
3,000	ITT London & Ed	6,30
20,000	Hambro Assured	6.45
50,000	Hambro Assured	6.55
1.000	Hambro Assured	6.00
3,000	ITT London & Ed	6.35
1,000	Hambro Assured	5.95
3.000	ITT London & Ed	6.55
	1,000 5,000 10,000 1,000 20,000 50,000 1,000 3,000 20,000 50,000	1,000 Hambro Assured 10,000 GE Fin Assur 1,000 Hambro Assured 10,000 Hambro Assured 20,000 Hambro Assured 50,000 Hambro Assured 1,000 Hambro Assured 3,000 ITT London & Ed 20,000 Hambro Assured 50,000 Hambro Assured 1,000 Hambro Assured

	Gross	Buying	Gross		purchase		
FIXED RATE	coupon	price	yleid	price	amount		
Birmingham Midshires	9.375%	125.45	7.432	100.17	1,000		
Bradford & Bingley	11.625%	152.55	7.620	100.13	10,000		
Bradford & Bingley	13.000%	170.51	7.624	100.20	10,000		
Britannia	13.000%	170.73	7,614	100.42	1,000		
Coventry	12.125%	159.99	7.511	100.75	1,000		
First National	11.750%	151.82	7.740	100.25	10,000		
Leeds & Holbeck	13.375%	176.09	7.596	100.23	1,000		
Newcastle	10.750%	140.26	7,615	100.32	1,000		
Newcastle	12.625%	165.61	7,623	100.45	1,000		
Northern Rock	12.625%	1 64.7 5	7,663	100.14	1,000		
Skipton	12.875%	169.54	7.594	100.48	1,000		
FLOATING RATE	Gross coupon	Buylr		ssue vice	Minimum purchase		
Cheshire (30/09-27/03)	9.04063%	120,0	10	0.00	1,000		
First Nat(22/09-20/03)	-	105.0	0 10	0.00	1,000		
PIBS = Permanent Interest-bearing shares Source: ABN AMRO Houre Govett — 0171 601 0101							
	SHARE IN FOCUS: RAILTRACK - US BUYERS DRIVE SHARES UP						
)			750 700		

PIBS

Northern Rock	5.14	to £250k	90	Fixed to 1.1.00
0800 591500 Bradtord & Bingley 0800 570800	5.60	£15k+	85	2.10% discount for 2 years
Banks Bank of Ireland 01189 510100	0.99	£20-145k	95	Fixed for 6 mths 3% disc-6 mths
Bristol & West 01179 792222	2.90	No max	90	Fixed to 1,9.98
	1 A	RGER I		
%				
Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies Nottingham Imper. 0115 9817220	0.75	£25-150k	75	Fixed at 0.75% to 31.1.98
Nottingham Imper.	0.75 0.99	£25-150k to £180k	75 95	
Nottingham Imper. 0115 9817220 Leeds & Holbeck				to 31.1.98 7% disc-6 mths,
Nottingham Imper. 0115 9817220 Leeds & Holbeck 0113 225 7777 Scarborough	0,99	to £180k	95	to 31.1.98 7% dsc-6 mths, 1% dsc-12 mths 6.99% dsc-6 mth
Nottingfiam Imper. 0115 9817220 Leeds & Holbeck 0113 225 7777 Scarborough 0990 133149 Banks Bank of Ireland	0.99	to £180k £30-100k	95 95	to 31.1.98 7% dsc-6 mths, 1% dsc-12 mths 6.99% dsc-6 mth 2%-6mth,0.5%-1 Fixed for 6 mth

LARGER LENDERS

Loan size

£20-150k

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在美国的一种工程的	等表示。 第一章 12 · 是

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AEGON LIFE ASSURANCE	UK Opportunity 305.10 322.70 + 2.10 Euro Opportunity 329.00 348.00 + 1.30	
Edinburgh Park, Edinburgh, EH129SE D131 339 9191	North Artier Opp 302.80 320.40 - 1.40	
Balanced \$84.40 b)8.50 ± 3.20 UK Equity 801.30 848.00 ± 7.60	Far East Opp 2/13.40 225.80 - 1.50 Gwth Prop Ser I 184.60 194.40	1
Property 447.00 473 (0 + 0.50	GUL Prop Ser 2 216.40 229.00 - 0.10	
Fixed Interest 375.20 397 10 + 0.70 Minney 278.40 394 70 + 0.30	Fized ini 252.20 266,80 + 0.90 Cash 176,60 (262,80 + 0.20 6.49	
International 460.10 508 to - 2.80	Overses 3)7.40 355,80 - 0.90 Formerly LAS	
ATIBETO S Free	Managed Fund 487.80 5[3.50 + [.20	l
ABBEY LIFE Haldenhard Road, Bearnemouth	UK Equity 922.90 971.50 +15.50 Property 248.70 314.50 - 0.10	l
EF(8 8A.L. 01202 292573	Money Murles 279.80 294.60 + 0.33	
Custodian 54 216 ID 229.60 + 2.40	Fixed Interest 166.40 385.70 + 1.30 Japan 308.20 324.50 + 1.50 .	l
Ethicul 54 174.40 184.20 + 1.40 International 54 240.10 252.80 + 0.80 .	North America 264.50 283.70 - 1.20 International 490.40 516.30 - 0.80	ı
Protected Gth S4 130.60 177.50 - 0 (0 ,	European 42170 44190 + 1.70	l
Asian Pacific 207.00 217 90 - 130 European S4 274.10 209.60 + 5.00	Far East	l
Prop Fd Str 4 437 40 4-0.50 - 1.50	a	
Equity Ser 4 313.50 130.10 + 3.10 Man Ser 4 883.30 +29.80 + 7.80	CANADA LIFE 24 High Street Parers Bar, Herts EN6 5BA	1
Com- Ser 4 346.70 385.00 + 0.40	01707 51122	
Mustry Ser 4 865-30 394-60 - 0.40 Flued Int Ser 4 435-10 458-10 + 3.50	Managed 444.60 458.10 - 1.60 Property 286.50 302.10 - 0.50	l
American Ser 4	G1Lia Pud Int 291.50 306.90 • 0.60	ı
Indexed Inv Ser 4 247.50 260.60 • 2.30	Equity \$53.80 \$43.00 • 1.50 Vanto 234.80 251.60 • 0.30	
Japan Ser 4 287-50 300-70 + 7,40	CLife Euro Mpd \$12.00 560 (c) = \$40 CLife Intil Fd 403.20 424.50 = 1.00 .	ı
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WEEKEND MONEY LETTERS

Finer points of à borderline case of mis-selling

From Mr P. E. Perham

MATIONAL SAVINGS

PENSION ANNUTIES

FIEST TIME BUYERS

ALL NOW ON OSCION.

Sir. Am I alone in having difficulty in assessing the cor-rect methods of deciding if a case exists for pension misselling compensation? Five years ago I transferred to a personal pension following redundancy. The projected benefits for the personal pension gave figures far in excess of the frozen final-salary scheme of my previous employer due to growth rates and annuity rates being laid down by Lautro at that time. Several chings have occurred since that make the think I might be worse off.

Pension projections five years ago were hased on annual growth rates of 8.5 per cent and 13 per cent. More recently, however, due to reduced inflation, these have been reduced to b per cent and 12 per cent, and projections use a reduced annuity rate.

I have achieved a 9 per cent growth rate on my pension and am aware that I need a 12 per cent rate to meet the finalsalary scheme of my previous employer. Assuming an opti-mistic 3 per cent terminal bonus, I would be a borderline case. We now learn tax concessions are to be removed, which will probably mean a failure to meet the 9 per cent in the future

tic. certainly worse off).

If future inflation, growth rates, annuity rates and terminal bonuses plus varying tax rates are so flexible and unknown, can someone tell me on what basis pension holders should assess if they are a case for compensation? Is the real reason that pension providers are drugging their heels over compensation due to the fact that it is an impossible task?

As an aside perhaps some-one can also tell me how Westminster can justifiably put pressure on companies to compensate when much of the situation is due to government encouragement in the first place and possibly upon the latest Gordon Brown "raid".

PHILIP PERHAM. 18 The Causeway, Petersfield, Hampshire.

Nationwide rates itself



print adds: ·...than we did in 1947"

From Mr & Mrs T. C. Fisher Sir, My wife and I have been investors with the Nationwide for a number of years as well as recently having our mortgage with

We noticed in your article (Carperbaggers pause to regroup, September of that a spokesman for Nationwide said that "we pay better saving rates". This simply is not the case. Recent press adverts show that the Nationwide rates lag up to nearly I per cent under

competitors. Our comment to the Nationwide is that investors are paying dearly for the slightly lower mortgage rate. As we retired early last year this loss of income is important to us and we feel Nationwide is at serious fault with its investment rates policy. Yours faithfully, T.C. & A.L. FISHER, "Keilaton".

Devons Road,

Babbacombe,

Torquay, Devon.

Cary Park.

Pensioners deserve to keep their Pep benefits

From Dr R. Law
Sir, I believe that personal
equity plans (Peps) should
continue unaltered for the
present generation of State old age pensioners, and offering the current tax reliefs. This benefit would thus gradually wither on the vine with this special generation of pensioners, many of whom fought for our country's freedom in mili-tary service for over five years. often far from home.

A change in rules would cause difficulties for many pensioners who rely on the dividends to eke out their pensions, and planned matters that way. They have already lost the tax relief on any private health insurance. Any changes will also lead to the finance industry making additional charges.

Yours faithfully. 1 Beechworth Close, NW3.

Abbey habit is spreading

From Mr S. W. McLintock Sir, Karen Zagor's article (An expensive new Abbey habit?, September 6) claims that Abbey National account charges are, so far, limited to holders of the Instant Plus Account. "Abbey has promised not to bring in similar charges for the 1.6 million customers of its main account."

I have a bank account with Abbey National and the statement dated July 31, 1997, was endorsed with a notice that, from September 3, a 51 charge would be levied on ministatements requested at a bank counter, it does, therefore, appear that, at least as

far as mini-statements are concerned, charges are al-ready being levied on current account holders by Abbey. Yours faithfully, S. McLINTOCK, 24 Briarfield Avenue. Bradford. West Yorkshire.

Letters are welcomed, but The Times regrets it cannot always give individual replies or advice. No legal responsibility can be accepted for advice or statements in these columns and independent professional advice should

DIRECT LINE RATES

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(5,000 - (2,909	5.90%
£10,000-£24,999	6.65*%
£25,000 - £49,909	6.75%
7.20'HOH - 7.55' 84.1	6,90%
Д. Тиналият +	7.00%
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APR	7.8%



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of the Direct Line products listed above, please phone the appropriate number above quoting ref. TTBB24

ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.

Savers unaware of the self-assessment trap

From Mr B. Hypher

Sir, The discussion on selfassessment deadlines and difficulties has so far focused exclusively on those who have been sent forms, defined usually as self-employed and high earners.

I have read nothing about i another category who are probably blissfully ignorant that they have also been caught up in self-assessment. This is the people with untaxed interest derived from National Savings products which pay interest gross, notably pensioners' bonds.

There must be large numbers of elderly people who are obliged to declare this interest but who do not realise that this means notifying the In-land Revenue, obtaining a self-assessment form and completing it to the same deadlines as everyone else in order to avoid the penalties. L do my 97-year-old moth-

er's tax return and am well

able to cope on her behalf. A phone call to her tax office in Cardiff (which deals with many pensioners) established that I now had to keep bang up to date and, yes, they have

a self-assessment section. In fact, contrary to many articles, I found the form well laid out and easier to complete than the old form - it took less than 30 minutes.

It would be interesting to explore Revenue policy on pensioners' untaxed interest, the lack of publicity on selfassessment for pensioners and whether the taxman will exact

the standard penalties.
In the past one could let the untaxed interest matter ride for a few years and then catch up in one go. Now it seems one

Yours faithfully, BERNARD HYPHER. 40 Twentlow Avenue.

on average E780 a year

worse off than their male

counterparts, according to a survey by the TUC. Single

female pensioners are likely

to be the poorest of all. John

Monks, General Secretary

of the TUC, said that women

historically have missed out

on pensions partly because

of patterns of employment as

well as discrimination in

occupational schemes. The

TUC survey showed that

only one woman in four is a

member of an occupational

pension scheme and more

than three million people do

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1 out of 12

I out of 13

14 out of 73

3 out of 5

1 out of 24

12 out of 79

11 out of 25

* 1 out of 27

5 YEARS FUND % RESEARCE

CHANGE RATINGS

AA .

ΑA

AAA

٠.

AAA

AA

+101.5

+139.5

+1443

+130.3

+15.4

+1129

+144,7

SINCE LAUNCH
LAUNCH % POSITION
DATE CHANGE IN SECTOR

+682.4

+763.7

.+1335,3

+409.9

+255.6

+400,4

+87.6

+56,1

+9.0

25.1.83

8,4.85

.21.4.84

8.11.86

30.11.91

8.11.86

24.10.87

8.3.93

31.1.95

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THE WEEK IN MONEY

BRADFORD & BINGLEY. Britain's second-largest building society is raising its variable mortgage rate by 0.25 per cent with effect from Monday. The move is a delayed response to the July and August base rate rises. The society has pledged not to raise its rate again until the end of January, even if base rates go up again before then. Borrowers of more than two years' standing will continue to pay a reduced rate of 7.75 per cent. The average variable rate amongst larger ienders is 8.45 per cent.

☐ Revised GDP figures have revealed that the economy is growing at its fastest rate since 1989, heightening speculation that the Bank of England will raise interest rates again in November. Second-quarter GDP increased by an annual rate of 3.5 per cent, compared with a previously published estimate of 3.4 per cent. Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, said at the International Monetary Fund meeting on Tuesday that he is "optimistic" about the outlook for the economy despite the "threat" posed to inflation by strong consumer spending.

☐ Women pensioners are

not receive the full state ☐ Britannia Building Society insisted that neither life insurance policyholders nor and borrowers would lose out as a result of a E14 million provision for losses at its subsidiary, Britannia Life. The society began a review into profit forecasts for the life company earlier this year. The society said that bonuses on life policies which had already been declared would be unaffected by the provision. Britannia also predicted that it was likely to match at the end of this year the E37 million paid out ro

members under its loyalty

bonus scheme in 1990.

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THE INSURANCE POLICY

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the first time should be an adventure - but not for the wrong reasons. Thieves often target student homes because they know freshers are more interested in having fun than bothering about house security. Students do need insurance for the contents of their homes and rooms and

often underestimate the cost of replacing belongings stolen or damaged. You may be covered under your parents' policy at their home: Nationwide and Royal & Sun-Alliance offer cover to students if their parents are insured with them. Some policies can be extended for a

fixed sum: Eagle Star will charge £25 for a student to be added to the Homestar policy (although you will only be insured for ESOO-worth of possessions). Always lock your room or house because evidence of a forced entry into

your lodgings is normally required to make an insurance claim. If you cannot be added to your parents'

policy, you will pay more for living in an area classified as "high risk", such as parts of Manchester, Teesside, Newcastle and Liverpool If you are living in a shared house or

flat in one of these areas, you can expect to pay £76 for £2,000 basic contents cover with Campus Insurance. With Endsleigh. it is £84. If your flat is in a "low risk" area, such as Plymouth, Swansea or Reading, the premium is £34 with Campus, £37 with Endsleigh. The hall of residence premium for all areas is £24 with both Campus and Endsleigh. Medical Insur-

ance Agency (MIA Group) charges £22. You need to confirm whether your computer equipment is covered. Campus Insurance includes £500-worth of computer cover with its basic policy. Students must buy Endsleigh's basic policy before qualifying for computer cover. Computers can be covered on their own through Royal & Sun Alliance. You will normally have to pay the first £25 of any claim.

■ PLASTIC CARD FRAUD: Under-25s are particularly at risk from plastic-card crime, mainly because of carelessness, according to Card Watch, the banking industry's card fraud prevention campaign. According to its research. 14 per cent of people allow someone else to borrow their card; 15 per cent rarely or never destroy their card when it expires: and 24 per cent put their wallets or purses on a bar or table in the pub.

Report lost or stolen cards to your bank or building society immediately.

TELEPHONE BILLS: Nothing is more likely to cause friction in a shared house than working out the telephone bill. Ask BT for a fully itemised bill to keep track. A BT Chargecard enables you to phone from call boxes without needing cash. Calls will be charged to your parents' phone bill.

Many students now have mobile phones. Be careful to keep a close watch on your phone, as it is an easy item to steal. Use the mobile phone lock, if yours has one - a PIN number has to be entered before the phone can be used. Mercury One 2 One has launched its Up 2 You pay-as-you-go digital mobile phone service. This has no minimum-term contract, no monthly service charge or monthly bills. Airtime is purchased in advance using a voucher system. However, it will cost you £199,99 RRP for the Up 2 You Pack with handset and calls are charged at a very steep 50p per minute.

■ TRAVEL AND TRANSPORT: Transport costs can be high, especially if you live in London where a single journey on the Tube is £1.20. Student rail and coach cards are well worth buying. A four-year Young Person's Railcard is being offered free by Midland Bank when you open an account there

Visa has just launched TravelMoney, a new cash-machine card you preload with your holiday money. You can then withdraw it from any of Visa's 341,000 cash machines in 112 countries without having to convert currency in each country you visit. Call 01733 318900.

PARENTS: In spite of a maximum parental grant of £2,160 per year, students can leave further education owing around £5.000 in student loans.

A guide is available to help parents to olan ahead for their child's education and ' urther education. It offers advice on how to fund education - nursery, private school, and university - and has tips on money management, paying less tax on investments and teaching children to handle money. Available free from Sun Life. Call 0117 989 9030 Mon-Fri.

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Source: Micropal Based on £100 per month from 14.2.86 to 1.7.97. Offer to Bid prices. With gross income ref.100 per month from 14,200 to 17/37. Given to the places what the return would have been if the Trust had been eliging annual growth rate of 19.5%. The figures shown illustrate what the return would have been if the Trust had been eliging 1986. The value of stockmarket investments and any income from them may fall as well as use and investors may not ge ige. The tax treatment of PEPs will change in April 1999. The value to an in depends on personal circumstances. "For your protection, your calls to Scottish Wildows may be recorded or moral

Classic way to save cash is to buy an ageing car

Merryn Myatt on the best options for students who want to go out without

going broke

now as much a part of student life as expanding your knowledge of your chosen discipline. But you can cut your transport costs and cut a dash around campus in a car. The cheapest option and the one with the highest cool quotient is to buy a car made and regisbefore 1971. The trade Calls them classics, others would call them bangers. Either way, they are exempt from road tax, so there's a £145-a-

year saving to start with. For £1.500 you should be able to get a model in reasonable condition. MoT'd and structurally sound.

Remember, old cars were made before built-in obsolescence became an article of faith with manufacturers. Why else do you see so many old Beetles and Morris Minors around? The best place to start your

search is a classic car show. which will not only give you some idea of the best models and prices, but will also put you in touch with a cheap source of replacement parts for later.

Once you know which cars interest you, it's well worth investing £12 to £20 joining the relevant enthusiasts' club. The cost of the membership will be more than repaid by the knowledge of other members and their delight in sharing it.

Reputable dealers will always have an old banger or two taken in part exchange. Offer him half the asking price. The dealer probably can't be bothered to shift it anywhere else.

Buving from the small ads in the back of classic car magazines is only for the knowledge-

Austin A55 Mkll Cambridge

Austin 1300 GT Seloon Ford Popular 100E Saloon Ford Cortina Mkll GT

Morris Minor 1000 Saloon

Morris Minor 1000 Travelle Morris Minor 1000 Travelle

toursomes

As then pair

Triumph Herald 12/50 Saloon Triumph Vitesse 1600 Saloon

Minor 1000 Saloon



Nicola Baker discovered that the insurance arm of the NUS offered her a good deal



STUDENT FINANCE

able. Although it is an offence for advertisers not to point out a car's faults, enforcing your rights may be difficult.

There is little point in buying a cheap car if you cannot afford to insure it. Premiums for 17 and 18-year-olds - assuming you can find a company that will even give you a quote -can reach four figures, often making the insurance ludi-

NEO-CLASSIC BARGAINS ON A BUDGET

crously more than the value of the ageing wreck that it is supposed to be protecting.

Endsleigh, the insurance arm of the NUS, claims to be able to give 80 per cent of students a better deal than they could find anywhere else.

Nicola Baker, an 18-year-old from South Wales, will shortly be heading to Newcastle University to study for a degree in mathematics and accountancy. She approached eight insurance companies with her 13year-old Ford Fiesta, valued at £750. Three refused to quote for comprehensive insurance for under-21s and four refused for third party, fire and theft.

Endsleigh quoted Nicola £482.17 for comprehensive cover and £264.25 for third party. fire and theft - both £100 less than the next best. If your car is a "classic", you

£1,000 £900 £950 £1,200 £1,250 £1,400 £1,400 £1,150 £1,200 £1,850 £1,800

59-61 67-74 59-62 56-70 56-62 62-71 56-62 62-71 63-67 62-86 57-87

With fuel consumption problem

Well, not quite. The Austin A30 cost £507 when launched in 1951, and the Ford Capri was £890 7s 10d in 1969, so you

may be able to improve on Endsleigh's quotes by arranging your insurance through one of the hundreds of specialist classic car insurance companies that advertise heavily in the back of classic car magazines. They achieve their discounts, however, by catering for genuine enthusiasts who garage their cars and drive a limited mileage. They are not especially overjoyed by tecnaged student motorists, but they will look more benevolently on your case if you are a member of the relevant enthusiasts' club, which, incidentally,

insurance discounts. With thorough shopping around, you should be able to pick up comprehensive insurance on a 25-year-old car, with limited mileage, worth about E1,500, for £200 to £350.

can often arrange still further

certainly on the smaller engined cars - everything you could hope for, and parts available ludicrously cheaply through clubs, magazines or a breaker's yard, your main fi-

never know, you might even make some money when you come to sell at the end of your

the large capitalist".

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87	£10,681	£7,222	£2,354			
92	£13,830	£7,880	£3,667			
97	£29,990	£15,537	£4,596			

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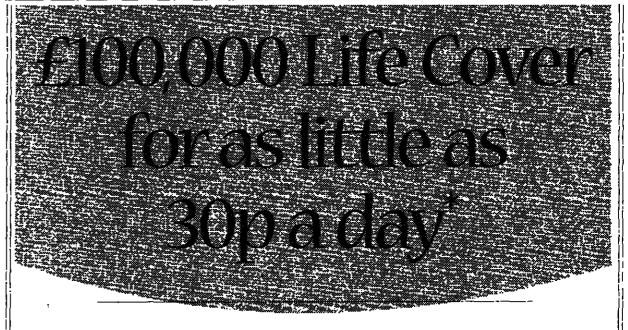
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e value of shares and the income from them can fall as well as rise and you may not get back the full amount invested. Past per-figures sourced Micropal: 30.06.77-30.06.97 Investment trust figures basis: mid-market prices, net income reinvested, incl. tual Plan charges: 0.2% commission and 0.5% Govr. Stamp Duty). Building Society figures basis: highest ner 5,000- Account) based on total return, net income reinvested. Unit trust figures basis: offer to offer, net income reinvested incl.

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LITTLE HEROES 52

Graham Searjeant on share prospects for small companies

WEEKEND MONEY

CLASSIC CASH 63

Steering students towards the best deals on wheels



THE TIMES: PERSONAL FINANCE NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR



Millions of workers to go it alone

Self-employment is a growth area, with some 3.3 million people now working for themselves, and the figure is set to soar over the next decade as more companies use contract or casual staff.

Emma Bagnall, left, a graphic designer, is one of this new army of workers with a host of accompanying financial prob-lems — organising tax, arrang-ing pensions, negotiating with bank managers. Go It Alone, a new Weekend

Money series, will tackle every aspect of self-employment, including arranging cover against ill-health and accidents and how to price your services.

Ignorance of the tax rules has meant that many self-employed people have found the new selfassessment tax returns a headache. This week, on page 58, we explain what the taxman will allow the self-employed to claim and how to put your tax affairs

are hoping to speed up the compensation process by of-

fering guaranteed schemes -

these are legally binding offers

that policyholders will suffer

no financial loss as a result of pension mis-selling.

Pearl, Legal & General and the Prudential are offering

Although these have been criticised by lawyers acting on behalf of pension mis-selling victims, another ten com-

panies have applied for authorisation to offer the plans. Norwich Union is tack-

ling its problems by promising to reinstate pension mis-sell-

ing victims. Again this has the effect of rapidly reducing its

such schemes.

INSIDE



Anne Ashworth on bond Pep complexities

Millionaires' club. Investment for the very rich



His pedippedippedicat



A question of yields. New bond Peps compared

PENSIONS

Retirement | gamble. How to



WEEKEND MONEY is edited by Anne Ashworth

Pensions claims hit crisis point Caroline Merrell finds funds and deadlines for out of any further plans to

The pensions mis-sell-ing crisis deepened this week as it was revealed that financial regulators were urgently reviewing the scope of the Investors Compensation Scheme (ICS) — the investor safety net set up by the Government to protect the clients of financial companies

that disappear.

Overall, the costs of compensating those who were encouraged by life insurance salesmen and financial advisers to leave or not join their occupational schemes in fayour of taking out a personal pension already look to be greater than the £4 billion originally estimated.

Policyholders who were mis-sold plans by financial advisers that have gone out of business or left the industry through the ICS - a scheme run by the regulators and paid for by the industry. The scope of the scheme is limited to £48,000 per compensation claim and to total claims of £100 million in any one year.

Claims against these firms are already beginning to mount. The Personal Investment Authority (PlA), the watchdog, has already found 7,000 possible cases of misselling, and it still has to analyse 168,000 cases. The ICS estimates that it could have to pay out on at least 16,000 mpensation cases. A spokesman for the scheme

claims that it had looked at compensation costs, and estimated them to be an average of £9.000 per case, bringing the price of sorting out these particular ones to £144 million more than the entire amount that the ICS has paid out since it was set up in 1988. Last time the ICS looked as though it was going to run out of cash, the Treasury stepped in with a lifeline, to ensure that all investors could be compensated. The Treasury said: "We have not as it is still a hypothetical

The ICS spokesman said: "It is not a case that we will pay out to investors one day, and then stop paying out on the following day because we have reached the £100 million limit."

The £48,000 limit on individual compensation claims is also being looked at by regulators. Compensation for those who were mis-sold a personal pension by a direct salesman. rather than a financial adviser that has vanished, will not be capped in this way. For instance, Pearl has paid out compensation of £500,000 to one victim of mis-selling. If this victim had bought his pension from a now defunct financial adviser, the ICS would not be able to pay out the full amount.

mis-selling compensation are severely stretched

The painful process of reinstating those who were encouraged to give up their company schemes is only just beginning. The figures are astounding. The Treasury estimates that a total of around two million people could have been mis-sold a personal penpersonal pensions sold.

The companies are concentrating their effort on reviewing the high priority cases — the dead and the old. Around 500,000 fall into this category. Work on finding the other possible 1.5 million has not even started.

Companies are already nearly one year over the original deadline set by the Board (SIB) for sorting out the

priority cases. Only two fifths reviewed and 73,000 offered compensation totalling £452 million. Despite extreme pres-sure from Helen Liddell, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, some companies look set to miss a revised set of crucial deadlines set by the Government. Among those

privatise state benefits. Some of the biggest compan-

have made the following pro-

gress: Gan Life, formerly Gen-

eral Portfolio, 9.419 cases for

review, 3 per cent sorted out;

London and Manchester, 7,513 cases for review, 17 per cent sorted out; United Assurance,

12,141 cases for review, 18 per cent sorted out; Pearl, 39,824,

19 per cent dealt with: CIS, 42,514 cases identified, 24 per cent sorted out; Prudential,

60,724 cases, 23 per cent sorted

out; Lloyds TSB, 47,225 cases,

34 per cent sorted out; and

Legal & General, 33,389 cases,

Life insurance companies

50 per cent sorted out.

which look likely to miss the deadline is the Prudential, which has the highest number of mis-selling cases, at 60,000. ith the deadline for compensating 90 per cent of

priority cases on-Davis, group chief executive, has admitted that the company will probably fail to achieve this first goal. Mrs Liddell has said that she is very disappointed with the Prudential. If the pace of review does not pick up to her satisfaction. then she says that she will take extreme action. This could involve raising further powers through Parliament. She has also said that companies that fail to perform will be locked

Pressing for action after bad deal

ayne Carvallo had the unfortunate experience of encountering an employee of NatWest while standing in the queue of her local branch of the bank in South London. She had worked for the local authority for 15 years, but had decided to move down to London to take up a job with a housing association. As an employee of the housing association she was not entitled to join an occupational scheme.

She said: The man from NatWest said that taking out a pension would be a good way of earning extra money in retirement. He said it was a new way of saving money. It seemed like a good idea at the time." The bank advised her to

transfer her pension into a personal pension from Scottish Life in 1992. After a year working in London she moved back to the North of England to work for the local authority again. Her new job entitled her to join an occupational scheme. She was alerted to the fact

that she could have been missold a pension from the press and television programmes and contacted NatWest in 1994. After a meeting between herself. NatWest and Unison, her agreed that she had been mis-sold a personal pension, although NatWest did claim that the bank had tried to prevent the transfer from going ahead.

To add insult to injury last

week she received a letter from NatWest saying that because she was not dead or retired she was considered to be a non-priority case. NatWest said it would take a further year to compensate her -- four years after she initially complained NatWest said: "We could compensate Ms Carvallo tomorrow, but we are still waiting for the scheme to provide us with information, and they are still waiting for clarification from the Department of Environment on certain matters."

CAROLINE MERRELL



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Jayne Carvallo faces a year-long wait for compensation

Analysts expect a Rock-steady debut

hares in Northern Rock, the demutualising building society which makes its stock market debut on Wednesday, could begin trading in a range of 410p to 460p. according to forecasts by some analysis. This follows strong rises in the share prices of banks and converted building societies in the market yesterday. At the top end of the scale, this could yield as much as £2,300 to each member.

Institutions and pension funds have been placing advance orders for the shares and City Index, the financial bookmaker, is currently quoting a price

range of between 423p and 433p. This is 20p up on the range earlier this week. Some analysts feel the shares would be fairly priced even at 500p, bringing each member £2,500. John Leonard. of Salomon Brothers' banking research team.

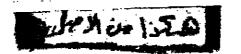
says he is a buyer at 425p or less. The market seems undaunted by news that more than 40 per cent of members intend to sell their shares immediately. Justin Urquhart Stewart, a director of Barclays Stockbrokers, recommends members hold their 500 shares. Jeremy Batstone, head of research at NatWest Stockbrokers, said the opening share

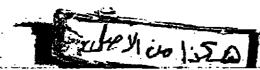
price could be around 410p, "provided there are no shocks in the market

between now and Wednesday". Northern Rock's share of the UK mortgage market is almost 3 per cent. compared with the Halifax's 20 per cent. Half of Northern Rock's new business comes from remortgaging.

There have also been bid rumours. Virgin. Marks & Spencer, Australian National Bank and Australian Mutual Provident have all been suggested as possible buyers.

MARIANNE CURPHEY





SEPTEMBER 71 1997 CASH 63

THE YEAR

ASIDE

Anne Ashworth a bond Pep mplexities

estion of

PENSIONS

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 27, 1997



Trousers head and shoulders above the rest



Millionaire's playground in the sun for only £10 million



Don't be wet, dive in at the deep end Page 19



Win a Kodak digital camera worth £200

HE TIMES

EEKEN

Ordure, ordure: Michael Gove examines the animal magic of Peter Brookes, The Times political cartoonist

His pen dipped delicately in acid wit



very Saturday, for the former Defence past 18 months, Peter Michael Portillo (Spanish Onion, Portillista hubrista) Brookes has been working his animal has been a fan for 14 years. He first bought a Brookes original magic in the pages of The Times. In his series Nature in 1983 when he snapped up a Notes, the Circe of satire turns caricature of Roy Hattersley, then Labour's deputy leader. men into beasts for our amuse-Despite becoming a casualty of ment. The political cartoonist of the year has made the newsthe caricaturist himself, Mr paper's back page the first stop for many Saturday readers with his series of inspired Portillo remains an avid collector. He enthuses, "It is wonderful how brilliantly he gets the trademark of a politician. With caricatures. Michael Howard's populist Major it was the blank glasses, touch at the Home Office was with Blair it's the teeth and, in

cruelly encapsulated with his my case, I suppose my hair was depiction as the Giant Panderer (Mandatoris sentencis); As well as admiring Margaret Beckett's suppressed Brookes's talent for giving his characters the visual equiva-lent of a Wagnerian leitmotiv, a socialism was caught with her transformation into a Painted signature flourish, Mr Portillo Lady which "uses its top profile to blend in with new surroundalso admires the cartoonist's polictical acuity: "He's so in-credibly intelligent. Sometimes ings and to disguise the true colouring beneath". The artistry and humour of I've seen a cartoon that got to Brookes's work has won him a the heart of some mistake I loyal following among Times readers since 1981 and has now made and I think, I wish he

hadn't spotted that." Brookes is not a typical prompted the publisher Little, Westminster-watcher. Hun-Brown to put the Nature Notes ched over his drawing-board in series between hard covers. Although it is Brookes's pittless a corner of the Times office, or eye which delights his fans. strolling towards lunch in a local pub, he certainly does not look like a creeper down the some of the most enthusiastic purchasers of the volume are corridors of power. His beard. likely to be his skewered subjects. Like an accomplished fedora and half-moon specs, Prince of Wales suit and suede seducer, Brookes manages by dint of his wit to endear himself loafers give him a half-boulevardier, half-bohemian aspect. to his victims even as he makes This is good camouflage for an One of Brookes's most wick-

Continued on page 2, col I



edly satirised subjects, the

fools of them.

SHOPPING......4,5 | GARDENING.......6,7 | PROPERTY......8-11 | PETS.......12 | HOME LIFE.....13 | COUNTRY LIFE..16,17 | TRAVEL....

. 19-27 | GAMES.......29,30

Don't worry I won't get pregnant.

Moure Taurus, in Aries!

NEW LIGHTER CRISPER HOLSTEN PLS SU GESTER WELV TO CHERGELYOUT



Responding to the day's events with an appropriate cartoon is one of the most difficult newspaper jobs.

Continued from page I observer of political wildlife and also gives no hint of Brookes's professional

Before he first picked up a brush in anger. Brookes was being trained in another form of precision targeting: as a pilot in the RAF. The son of a service family, he joined up full of enthusiasm after leaving school, but even on the first day he was the odd man out. Of all those expected to manoeuvre huge blocks of steel delicately at high speeds through the atmosphere. Brookes remembers, "I was the only one who couldn't drive. I wasn't in the least mechanical. I suppose I should have realised it wasn't for me."

e persevered and learnt to fly RAF jets solo, although not always on the prescribed path: "I used to get lost all the time. Having flown myself and knowing what I did, I'm now terrified of flying. took the family to the US this year and couldn't sleep the night before."

The time in the RAF was, however, far from wasted. As well as the camaraderie of service life, there was an opportunity to indulge lights that had previously been hidden under bushels. A nascent talent for drawing. which had never been properly tapped at boarding school, was directed in the RAF towards stage set designs and cartoons. Brookes's artistic bent gave rise to suspicions that he was "bolshie" but also secured him a safe passage out of uniform and into art school.

After a year's foundation course in Manchester, he went to the Central School of Art in London, where he was a contemporary of Posy Simmonds. It was the satire boom of the Swinging Sixties, "wonderful, a liberation after the RAF", and although Brookes was studying to be a graphic designer he found himself producing illustrations and cartoons for magazines such as New Society. An apprenticeship with a graphic designer turned into a studioshare as Brookes found his extracurricular illustrations were starting to overwhelm the demands of his day job.

Although he did not then plan to become a full-time producer of free-

standing cartoons, Brookes was a disciple of some of the profession's household gods. He remains a particular fan of Illingworth and Pont, the 1950s and 1930s cartoonists, for their drawing style as much as their humour. Brookes's other influences and enthusiasms extended backwards through Heath Robinson to Rowlandson and Hogarth, whose first-edition prints he has collected. Although happy to accept the challenge of illustrating work, Brookes's natural bent was towards cartooning.

A freelance for much of the 1970s. Brookes was lured to The Times in the 1980s by Harry Evans, the then Editor. Hired to illustrate others' articles, Brookes occasionally enjoyed the freedom to give his slant on events with freestanding cartoons; but it was only with the accession of Peter Stothard to the Editor's chair in 1992 that Brookes took on the responsibility of providing a daily political cartoon.

The need to come up with a satirical slant on the day's events regularly prompts readers to ask if he ever runs out of ideas, but the deadline imposes its own discipline. "You just have to deliver," he explains self-deprecatingly. "and accept that some ideas are more duff than others.

Most recently he found it difficult to come up with an appropriate cartoon on the day of the death of Diana, Princess of Wales and although his representation of the Queen of Hearts was tasteful and poignant, he still believes it was "inadequate to the

Tragic moments do not always find him faltering at the drawing-board. Events such as Dunblane have sometimes inspired his best work and Brookes believes "they have to be done

situations like that demand a response from journalists. Others write, I draw, After Dunblane, half the readers who responded thought it was distasteful to have a cartoon on the subject, but half expressed gratitude that a cartoon had captured their

Another cartoon which drew venomous complaints concerned the bomb on a bus in the Aldwych, central London, soon after an Israeli bus-bombing. Brookes had the figure of death standing at a bus stop saving: "Strange how you can wait ages for one, then they all come together."

The problem there is that you are making a serious point about the increasing incidence of this particular kind of atrocity using black humour." he said. "People think you are being frivolous when the exact opposite is the

Brookes, however, spends most days drawing humour from folly rather than a message from tragedy. He sees his task as "trying to get behind the posturing, sorting out the wood from the trees and getting to the nub of an issue or a personality in politics."

Some readers detect bias in every line but Brookes is unapologetic. "A cartoon is a comment, it can't be ambivalent. It may be a sort of arrogance for me to express my opinion, but it's satisfying when I've got a point across and readers respond favourably — or even unfavourably. I quite like it when readers complain."

Doliticians responding favourably is a different matter. Although it is always nice to be noticed. Brookes is sometimes perplexed by his victims' vanity - seeing any portrait, however wounding, as a trophy. Not all politicians, however, react in the same way. Tony Blair, although careful not to express his own opinion too directly, confided in Brookes that his father was a fan. Peter Mandelson, introduced to the man who styled him "blossom" for one Nature Notes, restricted himself to a haughty look but confesses now to a sneaking admira-tion: "His witty and incisive cartoons, particularly on Saturday mornings, are always entertaining and amusing. if not sometimes a little below the belt. His portrayal of this summer's occasionally stormy events provided light relief and a diversion from other, less elcome, sections of The Times."

If there are politicians who strongly dislike Brookes's work (and some approached for comments maintained a diplomatic silence), then they are wise enough to realise that complain-

ing could only make matters worse. Old hands are inclined to make a show of their enthusiasm, however sincere. When Baroness Thatcher was depicted as a Rabid Old Bat (Federalis anathema), her aides were on the phone first thing to order the original. "Oh yes, she did like the bat," one gushed, prompting Brookes to wonder if his pen nib would ever penetrate her thick skin.

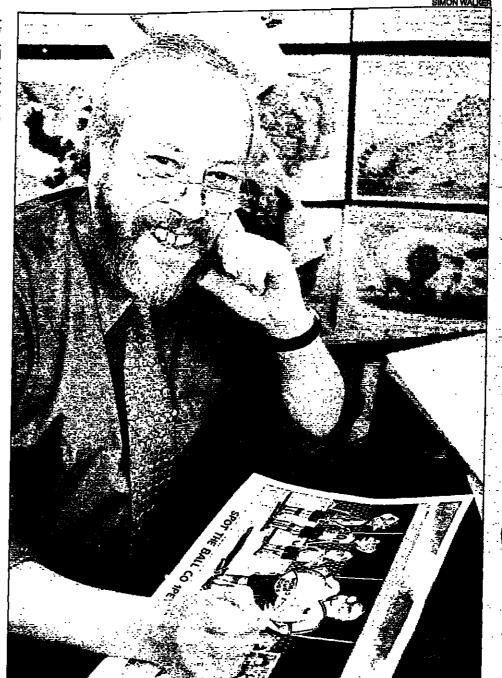
Ann Widdecombe, the former Home Office minister, collects all her appearances, whether she is depicted as a religious fundamentalist or the Black Widowcombe Spider (Somethingus ofthenightus). She accepts Brookes has been tough on the Tories but says: Cartoonists will always be caustic about those in power, but I do still like his work. After all, I wouldn't spend good money on it otherwise." Ken Clarke, the former Chancellor, writes "charming" personal notes and Brookes's work is part of a formidable collection of political art in the Clarke home. The Treasury team which works with Gordon Brown, his Labour successor, put in a bid for a cartoon of its boss but never followed it through. Brookes has a simple explanation for the different reactions of politicos: Perhaps vanity is a Tory vice.

If so, it is not restricted to politicians.
One of Brookes's best cartoons earlier this year was a portrayal of Mr Portillo, quiffed, big-lipped and brooding, as Mick Jagger. Mr Portillo was amused and flattered enough to want to bus it. So were Manager The to buy it. So was Mr Jagger. The Rolling Stone's purchase was the eloquent tribute of one Sixties artist still going strong to another.

 From today, Peter Brookes's Nature Notes will appear opposite the Letters page in the news section every Saturday.

 Nature Notes is published by Little. Brown on Thursday at ElO. An accompanying exhibition of the original cartoons opens on October 14 at the Chris Beetles Gallery, 8-10 Ryder Street, London SWI (0171-839 7551).

 There will also be a special limited edition of Nature Notes. bound in full leather, with an additional drawing signed by Peter Brookes, priced at £100. For details, write to: Foundling Press, 61-63 Lant Street, London SEI IQN.



Peter Brookes: "It's satisfying when readers react. I quite like it when they complain"

Jam

Wines which age shall not wither

he white wine revolu-tion of the late 1970s. driven by salesmen of refrigeration plants and resulting in super-clean fruity flavours on to which oakiness was rather ineptly grafted, was followed by a

revolution in red winemaking. This was inspired by the fact that some of the world's most influential producers of red wine, notably in Bordeaux, gradually came to realise that long-term storage of wine was becoming a distinctly minority sport, fraught with practical difficulties in an age when so many people live in centrally

heated apartments.
The excessively tannic, often rather acid style that had been traditional for young red bordeaux may have inconvenienced nobody in an Edwardian age when it was normal to keep such wines in a private cellar for several decades until they tasted more supple, but it was at odds with the pace of late-20th-century life.

The result was a sea change in the style of red bordeaux and other red wines, resulting in much deeper-coloured

Long-term cellaring is out. Jancis Robinson on vintages that

time softer and gentler to taste young. Thanks to anti-rot sprays that took the panic out of picking times, grapes were allowed to ripen more fully and sumptuously, so the wines became notably lower in acidity and the tannins in the grape skins, stalks and pips were also riper and less harshtasting. Once picked, the grapes began to be sorted much more rigorously to elim-

mature fast

inate rotten or unripe grapes. There was much more careful control of temperatures throughout the two-week fermentation process, typically heating the var a little at the One key element in red winemaking is the extraction of colour, tannin and flavour from the skins, and all qualityconscious producers have been particularly careful of the mixing up the skins and liquid in the fermentation vat as gently as possible, often using only the wine that will naturally drain off the skins and

ftover skins in the press. Bordeaux being the hub of the red wine world, subject to scrutiny from winemakers elsewhere, these techniques have been adopted as far as is financially possible for most of the world's fine wines, and certainly by most ambitious producers of Bordeaux-like wines made from cabernet sauvignon and merlot grapes.

excluding the much tougher

liquid that is squeezed off the

I have noticed over the past few years that the red wine faults have changed. In the old days there were too many mean, thin, under-ripe wines but today the disappointments are most likely to be deepcoloured but unbalanced because the colour, leeched out



Roll on change: red winemakers realised modern drinkers' centrally heated homes made storage difficult

classed-growth bordeaux, has not met with universal acclaim. Those with cellarsful of more attenuated, old-fashioned counterparts had a vested interest in wondering aloud whether these new wines would last. It is still too early to answer that. But the question becomes less relevant with every year. Nobody I've ever met is seriously buying wine for their children, let alone their grandchildren. All that seems to be demanded of great wine today is that it has a life

single component of my relatively small cellar, which is full to bursting with about 100 cases. As well as the cellar, I draw from a giant wine rack under the stairs deep enough to store two bottles in each of its 120 holes. This is my pending tray, where I put wines without the sort of future that requires cellaring. as well as serious bottles that I

can always put my hands on. There are certain wines that I seem to drink almost as soon as I buy them. This is true of the odd case of particularly successful pinot noir from Martinborough in New Zealand. Truly successful New World pinots tend to run out of their cardboard cases and on to the dinner table, perhaps because I know how much pleasure they can give — and how unlikely they are to make

my fortune as investments The same is true of fine alsace from the likes of Faller, Trimbach and Schoffit. Trimbach's Riesling Clos Ste Hune is the cassic example of slowmaturing alsace white, with so many admirers of its unim-peachably steely purity that its price has been rising out of the simple pleasure" category.

lumper rieslings, su-perior pinot blanes. sleeker pinot gris and the most savoury gewürztraminers are some of the wines that disappear fastest from my racks. These fullhodied, scented whites seem so useful, either as aperitifs or with all sorts of food — even quite sturdy "red wine" sort of food, although too many of them nowadays taste sweeter than I'm expecting.

Top-quality German wine is one of my cellar's specialities, representing a minority but, I assure you, very refined taste. Those of us who know that a bottle of mature Mosel riesling is just as fine an aperitif as any champagne are not numerous, but we all know that these wines demand time.

One of the most sublime was a 17-year-old, a J J Prüm Wehlener Sonnenuhr Auslese 1971, opened on New Year's Eve 1988, that was almost gold but still had the hint of green that can betray Mosel origins to the eye alone, it was still ungling with life and youth (Prüm's wines almost fizz in their very early years) but it definitely had a mature bouquet rather than a youthful aroma. The slow evolution

Giant wine rack under the author's stairs holds 240 bottles of wine that do not require cellaring. Clos Ste Hune, above, is the classic example of slow-maturing Alsace white of my cellar is entirely due to friendly structure. my Mosel riesling enthusi-I have yet to make any asm's coinciding with one for top-quality red bordeaux, for significant investments in cellaring modern Australian

these two sorts of wine mature

the new stars of the Pfalz, such

Lingenfelder, unopened in my

weeks. These have much more

cousins from the Mosel in the

north, and combine the weight

of a white burgundy with far

more racy acidity and fond-

wine, a few magnums of at more or less the same, particularly concentrated extremely stately, pace. I wish South Australian shiraz apart, I had more bottles of Mosel because of so many of them 1983s left. I should padlock my seem ready to drink the moment they're put on sale. 1989s, and am slightly embarrassed by my inability to keep Perhaps the most striking the powerful wines made by development in recent wine production has been the speed as Müller-Catoir and Rainer with which Australia has imposed itself on the world's wine rack for more than a few substance than their spindly

wine map. By the late 1980s it seemed as though my friends had given up European wine for good. Every dinner party was lubricated by bottles and bottles of deep golden Australian Chardonnay.

For years the French underestimated the challenge to their supremacy, interpreting the fact that they produce indubitably the best wines in the world as proof that all their wines were superior. This arrogance has been infuriaring, particularly for those of us who worship the best of France's wine culture. In the long term, I think competition from outside, especially from cheeky upstarts, will prove to be the best thing for traditional wine regions and for con-

ALSACE

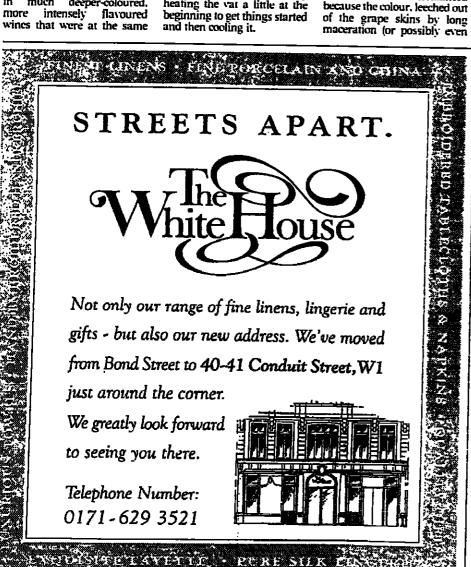
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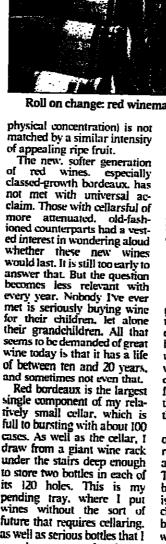
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© Jancis Robinson 1997 Extracted from Confessions of a Wine Liver, by Jancis Robinson, to be published by Viking at £17.99

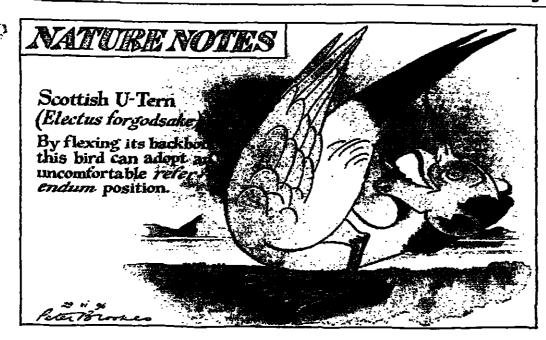
sumers everywhere,



PERE SILK



... but through his art Peter Brookes conveys succinct comments tinged with a strong whiff of irreverence





Hedgerhog (Europa dithera) If this sad creature persists in its middle-of-the-road position it can expect to be kohled in large numbers.

Drawing on experience

CARTOONING is alive and well in Britain. Its demise has looked imminent twice this century — first with the advent of photography. then of television. Nowadays people have immediate access to the images of politicians, members of the Royal Family and leading sporting and pop figures. Since they can all be caught in grotesque and embarrassing grimaces, what can the cartoonist add? The an-

swer to that is wit and intelligence. A cartoon is not just another illustration, it conveys a succinct comment varying from scepticism to irreverence and contempt, and it aims to embarrass the victim with laughter. A good cartoonist will have a clear political perspective. such as David Low's consistent attacks in the Thirties on Baldwin and Chamberlain.

Today we have The Guardian's artoonist, Steve Bell, who is old Labour right down to the nib of his pen, transferring his contempt for John Major to Tony Blair. The mind of the cartoonist is as important as his talent to draw.

Peter Brookes of The Times has one of the sharpest minds in cartooning. He found his calling rather late, having left school to become a pilot in the RAF, before becoming an illustrator.

Most cartoonists start very young. Gillray did his best work in his thirties and forties; a contemporary of his, Newton, died at the age of 21: Theodore Lane, who drew some wickedly funny cartoons of Caroline and George IV, fell to his death in his twenties through a window. George Cruickshank sat and watched his father, Isaac, etching cartoons, and started drawing them himself at the age of 12. He abandoned Kenneth Baker examines the new

book by Times cartoonist Peter Brookes



England and France battle for the world in Gillray's cartoon

political cartooning by the age of 30 in favour of illustrations, going on to draw Oliver Twist. Brookes is happily a late flowering.

As an illustrator, his sketches accompanied articles by Bernard Levin and Simon Jenkins. Then in 1992, he asked the editor of The Times, Peter Stothard, whether he could have a go at political cartooning. Fortunately for us all,

the answer was "yes". Brookes's first five years were dominated by John Major's Government. On the day after the election in 1992, he drew his most flattering cartoon of the Prime Minister, standing confidently on his soap box outside No 10, while Neil Kinnock was in the soup.

In that cartoon, Brookes drew the pupils of John Major's eyes be-

hind his glasses, but he soon omitted the pupils to show that Major had no vision of where the country was going. Unkind, but cartoonists do not deal in kindness. William Hague has learnt that lesson already as Brookes portrays him as the Mekon, a strange, barely human android.

CARTOONISTS thrive on big figures — Margaret Thatcher, Michael Heseltine, Ken Clarke and, above all, on prime ministers. Brookes has therefore been coming to grips with Tony Blair. The physical side is not too difficult — the teeth, the wisp of hair and no doubt soon the wringing of the hands. But to get at the politics of the Prime Minister, Brookes has

invented a comic strip character

Dan Blair, with the ironic subtitle. Pilot for the Forseeable Future — the dynamic, confident chap who has all the answers ... or does he? This is somewhat reminiscent of Vicky's portrayal of Macmillan as Supermac in the late Fifties. It was meant to be ironic, but actually en-

hanced Macmillan's reputation. Brookes's book, Nature Notes. shows that he is warming to the task of pinning down the new ministers in the Government, a target-rich area with characters such as Prescott, Mandelson, Short and Dobson who, as Health Minister, can look forward to a hard winter of cartooning.

The cartoonist has to search for the unlikely and the bizarre, and one way of doing this is to couple two unrelated contemporary events. For example, when Clare Short discovered her long-lost son. Brookes depicted Tony Blair as finding his long-lost mother — Margaret Thatcher.

A good cartoonist has to delineate the character in his caricature. As Annibale Carracci, the Italian father of caricature, or caricatura, said in the late 16th century. cartoonists must "grasp the perfect deformity and thus reveal the very essence of a personality". But it has to be done with an economy of line. and Brookes successfully reduces his victims' characteristics to the bare minimum.

In Nature Notes, John Major's opposition to Gillian Shephard's devotion to corporal punishment has him depicted as an angular stick-insect resting on a cane. Heseltine, who had said that there was nothing wrong in keeping companies waiting for their money, is punningly drawn as a cheetah (late-payer Hezza).

A brutal and very Jamaican death



Tunku Varadarajan mourns the

shocking loss of a dear friend

n July 9, 1997, two evil men murdered Mark Twyman my friend, my buddy, my mate — outside his cottage in Jamaica's Blue Mountains, where he grew the world's best coffee on his father's sprawling farm. We know there were two killers because Mark's body bore the wounds of two different guns.

The men shot him six times: five bullets in the back as he tried to escape, and once in the heart, the gun so close to his body that there were powder burns on his chest. The last shot was fired as he lay, barely alive, on a steep hillside. In Mark's right hand, caught in a death-grip, was a wristwatch, wrenched from one of his assailants, as his own life was being wrenched from him. It was a coarse death, a brutal death, a very Jamaican death.

The local papers, turned callous by 1,000 murders a year, mentioned his end in no more than 50 dry words. There was no mention of his wife, Mary-Anne, then eight months pregnant with their first child. Now, she is the mother of Nicholas Mark, six weeks old, who will never see his father.

I fly to Jamaica next weekend for Mark's memorial service. His ashes will be interred on a mist-wrapped slope at Green Hills by his family. accompanied by a small knot of friends from Kingston and New York, London and Oxford. We will shed quiet tears for Mark, and, I hope, toast him in coffee, the drink for which he gave his life.

I knew Mark from Oxford. where we were undergraduates together: he at Pembroke, I at Trinity, he a chemist and I a lawyer. We first met in 1981, at a freshers party at the Oxford Union. We last met in December, 1994, considerably wiser, when he was on holiday in London - "to buy books



Mark Twyman at Oxford in a 1984 photograph taken after an exam. He went on to achieve a BA in chemistry

and records, and to get a bit of culture", as he then put it. He bought a compact disc -I think it was a symphony for the organ by Charles-Marie Widor — and we listened to it in my new flat in Islington. We had just played squash, and were sweating profusely. I remember the Jamaican lilt in his voice, and the swell of the

orean music. Mark is now dead. He was killed, we believe, by his own integrity. After long years in England - a BA in chemistry at Pembroke, a doctorate, a research fellowship at Oxford. and a spell as a research scientist with Exxon in Abingdon - he returned to Jamaica in 1993, determined to

work for the country in which he was born. He would have been 35 this December.

ell people," he friends at the time. "After years of talking about it. yours truly is actually taking that big step. Yep. I'm going to give Jamaica my best shot. Idealistic tomfoolery? Simply stupid and ill-informed? Or inspired? I don't know. But, 'im a go back a yard fi true yu know!"

Mark took charge of his father's farm, the Old Tavern Estate, and coffee output trebled within three years. For the first time, the farm was being run as a proper commercial enterprise. He also pitched in with the rest. and people still talk of "this little white man", with a doctorate from Oxford, humping bags and cutting weeds with the farmworkers. He also taught at village schools and picked up his workers at the crack of dawn. To them he was always "Mark", never "Mr

Twyman, Sir". Yet Mark was stubborn. Mark had integrity. He got these features from his father, Alex, who migrated to Jamaica in 1958 from Forest Gate, in east London. Alex, who came to work as a quantity surveyor, soon married Dorousy, who belonged to an old white Jamaican lamily. Together, a decade later, they bought a plot in the Blue Mountains and started the farm.

A man of iron honesty, Mark rubbed the "coffee establishment" up the wrong way. He was swiftly embittered by the openness with which coffee producers were robbed, the audacity with which stocks were plundered. It is an open secret in Jamaica that the profits from these thefts line not just the pockets of the pilferers, but also of those officials who control Jamaica's coffee milieu.

Mark witnessed these thefts, which cost his farm not petty cash but thousands of dollars. He spoke out against them repeatedly. He had warned



taken down the numbers of licence plates.

In doing so he made enemies in high places. This, surely, was why he was murdered. And this, surely, is why the police have now called off the investigation into his murder, a mere ten weeks after his

There is more for 25 years Mark's father battled the Jamaican Coffee Board's monopoly, fighting for a licence that would allow him to export his coffee independently, and free him from the law that forced him to sell all his beans to the board.

ark had thrown hind his father's struggle for a licence, bringing an Oxonian polish to what had previously been a rough-and-tumble campaign by his gruff and

With Mark's skills, the Twymans won. On July 9, the very day of his murder, the export licence finally came through. The world, for Mark, looked brilliant that morning: a new licence for the family after a quarter-century of attri-tion, a devoted wife who was eight months pregnant, his Jamaican dream in full flower. At 5.30pm that day, drained after his labours, he returned home, to the beautiful, sylvan

cottage where he lived. But they were waiting for him there. Two men, one with an automatic rifle, the other with a handgun. Mark was attacked as he alighted from his Land Rover, parked on the gravel driveway. The car's door was still ajar the next morning when a search party found him, soaked in the dew of the Blue Mountains. He was dead, his fine life destroyed by a volley of callous bullets, his body slumped against a coffee bush.

Mark Twyman - my friend, my buddy, my mate died a coarse death, a brutal death, a very Jamaican death.





CANARD-DUCHÈNE, CHAMPAGNE SANS FORMALITÉ.

hed

are.

Lady Cobbold tells Mike Cable how CRA helped her to refashion Knebworth House

Loving revival of a rock pile

ock 'n' roll helped to put stately home Knebworth House back on the map with the likes of Elton John, the Rolling Stones and Oasis headlining a series of massive open-air festivals staged in the 250-acre park.

Behind the scenes, however, the struggle to save the Hertfordshire estate, in the same family for more than 500 years, has not always been quite so glamorous for Lord and Lady Cobbold.

Running a stately home is a notoriously difficult business and despite the success of the concerts and other attractions that they have





The entrance to CRA, favoured haunt of artists in St Albans

introduced since taking over Knebworth from Lord Cobbold's parents in 1970, there have been times when they have come close to

It was partly to help cut costs that the shy and unassuming Chryssie Lytton Cobbold — as she prefers to be known - taught herself upholstery. curtain-making and picture-framing, personally refurbishing much of the interior of the house.

Over the years she has tackled everything from the repair of delicate antique silk curtains to the complete restoration of a magnificent 18thcentury four-poster bed in the bedroom once used by author Edward Bulwer-Lytton's mother. In her workroom she even set about rewiring all the table and standard lamps.

It was after she decided to re-cane a set of 16 antique Regency dining chairs that she first discovered CRA, a large, two-storey shop in nearby St Albans that specialises in art and craft materials and picture framing.

"After a lot of ringing around, it was the only place I could find that sold the sort of cane fabric that I needed," she recalls. "Then, when I went in, I found that it was full of all kinds of other interesting things."



Lady Cobbold at the shop with a restored Regency dining chair. "It was the only place that sold the sort of cane fabric that I needed"

When it first opened as a small corner shop in the city 20 years ago. what was then known as the Centre for Restoration and Arts concentrated mainly on upholstery and furniture

But by time it moved to its present premises six years ago, it had started to concentrate more on the art side. In St Albans it seems that everyone is an artist," explains Denise Davis, one of the four partners who run the family business. "There are an awful lot of art societies in the area."

An endlessly energetic mother of grown-up children, Lady Cobbold herself likes to paint - when she can find the time. "I'm lousy at it, but when I'm on

holiday I like to have a go and I come here for all my materials," she says.
"I do a lot of picture-framing at the house and they have a huge framing department here, which is useful, "I also make a lot of cushions and

this is where I get embroidery wool

that I use." Her eye alights on some plain white silk ties that can be handpainted with one's own design. "I love that idea; I think I might do one as a present for my husband," she says. Browsing further among the packed shelves, she points out some

miniature wallpapers of the kind she used to renovate an antique doll's house, dating from 1780, for the museum at Knebworth. "I also made a doll's house for my

daughter Rosina when she was little," she recalls, adding: "I just itch to make things. And working with my hands is something which has always come naturally to me."

Upholstery and the caning of chairs are skills she taught herself from books. "I never go to classes," she says. "My mind goes completely blank when someone actually tries to tell me how to do something. I suppose that's why I never did very well at school."

The daughter of Sir Dennis

Stucley, Chryssie was brought up at Hartland Abbey, an even bigger stately pile than Knebworth, so she was no stranger to the problems involved in keeping such places

n her book Board Meetings in . the Bath, she tells how she, as company secretary, and her husband, as chairman, planned the events, the attractions and the developments that have enabled them to hang on to the house that was built by Lord Cobbold's ancestor

Robert Lytton in 1492. Another book, Knebworth Rock Festivals, recalls her personal memories of nearly 20 major rock events that have been staged there since 1974, regularly attracting as many as 120,000 people.

Although she is a keen rock fan. Chryssie admits that she was a little apprehensive when the idea was first put to her. "But the promoter told us:

'Everybody has their price, name

yours.'
"We mentioned a figure which seemed like a fortune to us, never thinking it would be accepted, and he said yes immediately. So that was it. "And we never regretted it. It has

been good commercially and we have never had any real trouble. On the whole, everybody has always been very well behaved." Her latest project involves editing and reprinting the works of her

husband's great-great grandfather, Edward Bulwer-Lytton, whose close friend Charles Dickens often stayed at Knebworth, where he wrote part of David Copperfield. "We've put Knebworth back on the

map. Now I'd like to do the same for Edward Bulwer-Lytton's writings,"

● CRA, 13-15 Victoria Street, St Albans, Herts ALI 311 (01727 851555). Open Mon-Fri 8.30am-5.30pm, Sat 9am-5pm.

BARGAIN BASEMENT

There are bargains to be had at markets, boot sales, junk shops and stalls all over the country. Let loose on them with (100, what would you buy?

Time was that the idea of buying anything at a festival that wasn't a pint of yellow lager in a waxed cup or a lukewarm pie was laughable bordering on the insane. Festivals were for students, the terminally unemployable, and people who'd never been the same since they'd done that dodgy acid in 1978. They didn't want to buy things. They wanted to clap at things, drink things,

and throw things up later. But now that festivals become lucrative have "parts of the season", consumer opportunities are endless. The Womad World Music Festival had large African wardrobes and Middle Eastern brass coffee tables for sale, while Glastonbury offered yurts (samosa-like twig tents) for a reasonable £50.

Reading festival, alas, isn't so hot. The grooviest



Jester's hats: ubiquitous fare at music festivals

Wibblies - small wooden animals the size of a 50p

coin, with heads on springs. The ubiquitous jester's hats are becoming evermore dangerous - often up to three storeys high, and festooned with a distressing number of jangling bells. At night, the sounds of drunken reveilers falling into drainage ditches is punctuated by the oddly affecting sound of Santa's sleigh.

And, for those who like their clothes colourful, the jackets made of candlewick bedspreads and old curtains made the festival-site look like it had been dressed by Vivienne Westwood. Otherwise, it's all dopesmoking accoutrements hookahs in the shape of two lovers; a skull; a Coke bottle with "Toke" cunningly Written on it.

I'm old school in my festival purchases: I spent most of my money on lager. You know where you are with lager.

● Los Wibblies: £2.50 each; demonic mirror that looked like Les Dennis: £12; candlewick jacket in red and yellow: £15; two skirts in gold curtain material: £14; knitted floorlength dress: £15; starshaped lampshade: £15; rainbow-patterned aniseer flavour cigarette papers: 50px hookah in the shape of a penis: £20. Total: £94.00.

CAITLIN MORAN

GADGETS

It is difficult to imag-ine life without hi-fi speakers, but positioning them correctly is always fraught with pitfalls. Often speakers' umbilical cords are too short to place them far enough apart for true high-fidelity sound, unless you add extensions. On the floor they are wasted; on the wall, cables dangle untidily.

Life would be easier if you could place speakers wher-ever they sounded best. The answer is cordless speakers. and although the first are hardly top-of-the-range, future versions surely will be. They work with a transmitter, which plugs into any. sound source, like the headwith a mini-jack plug. There is also a standard plug adaptor so you can use it with either the hi-fi or the

television. powered with four AA batteries, can be placed anywhere within a 50ft radius. The freedom is sensational, allowing you to take listening pleasures to unlikely places like the loo, bedroom, attic or garden shed. It is especially good for allowing you to play music you couldn't ordinarily cart around effortlessly, like



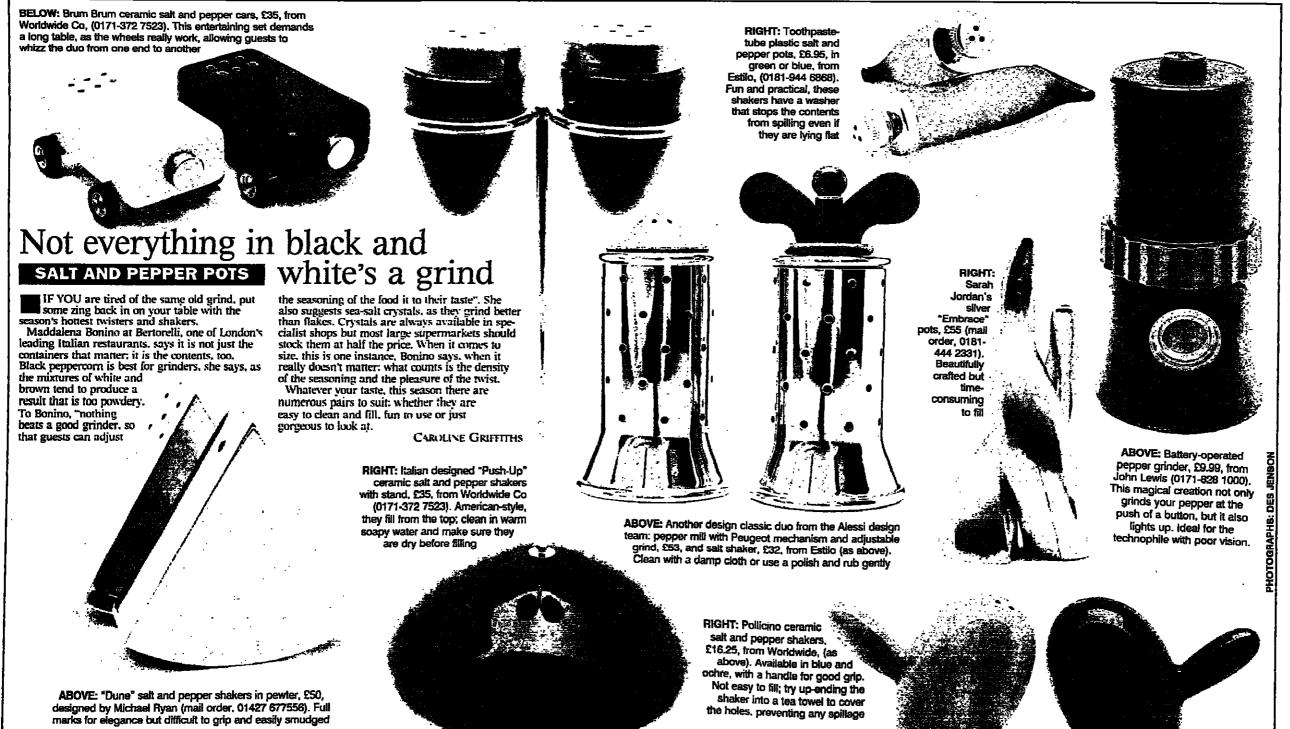
Cordless speakers: music just where you want it

vinyl records. The sound can be on the thin side, reception is not always perfect and, since the feed is taken from a headphone socket, this cuts out primary speakers, a setphone socket of a Walkman, a back if you want piped Mantovani in every room. However, several speakers can be fed by one

transmitter. The biggest drawback is that the speakers can only be purchased as an add-on: unit is sold with miserable cordless stereo headphones that hiss more than Sid.

TIM WAPSHOTT

 Cordless headphones and transmitter plus two speakers package, £69.95 plus p&p. from Innovations (090 807060).



LEFTEMBER 27 1997

The latest wide-legged styles are the answer to every woman's trouser dilemma, Heath Brown writes







MAIN PICTURE: Merino cowlneck sweater, £55, Jigsaw, branches nationwide (0171-491 4484). Grey flannel trousers, £59, Kookai, branches nationwide (0171-937 4411), Cowboy boots, £295, Gina for Ghost, 189 Sloane Street London SW1 (0171-235 2932)

ABOVE: Blue stretch shirt, £19.99, River Island, branches netionwide

(0181-998 8822). Jil Sander; grey check trousers, £310, Sonia Rykiel, both Browns, 25-26 South Molton Street, London W1, and 6 Sloane Street, SW1 (0171-491 7833). Clutch bag, £135, Russell & Bromley, 24-25 New Bond Street, London W1, and branches

nationwide (0171-629 6903). Cowboy boots, Gir for Ghost, as before LEFT: Grey knit T-shirt, £240, Jil Sander, Browns, as before. Side-split trousers, £190, Valencia (0171-833 1410). Boots, Gina for Ghost, as before

Photographs by Richard Burns. Hair and make-up by Sally Kvalheim. Styling by Amandip Uppal

Wear them far and wide

question: worries about the size of their thighs or their bottom take over. They should stop fretting: the new wide-leg trouser styles are perfect for hiding every imperfection: loose flowing, but tailored for a flattering fit, they can look fabulously elegant and will add another diniension to every wardrobe, giving women ever more combina-

tions to choose from. For the look, think back to the simple sophistication of Katharine Hepburn in her heyday, when softly tailored wool pants were worn with crisp white blouses or plush cashmere sweaters. It is a

> THREE OF A KIND It is not just trousers that are going wider. A broad belt will diminish

the circumference of

your waist and help to keep you upright and elegant. HB

TOP: Black patent mockcroc wide hipster belt, £78, Sally Gissing (0171-267 9303).

MIDDLE: Red patent wide belt, £45, Otto Glanz, Irom

most major department

stores nationwide (0181-365 1711) BOTTOM: Black soft leather hole-punched wide belt, £79, Mulberry, 41-42 New Bond Street, London

W1 (0171-491 3900)

To many women, the idea of wearing trousers is out of the Forties, when women — who had only worn trousers in factories and offices while the men were off to war - started wearing pants to every occasion in peacetime, breaking all previous conventions about society parties. Although trousers were considered to be very masculine at the time, this new style moulded them to make them womanly, with soft folds and feminine flairs to flatter

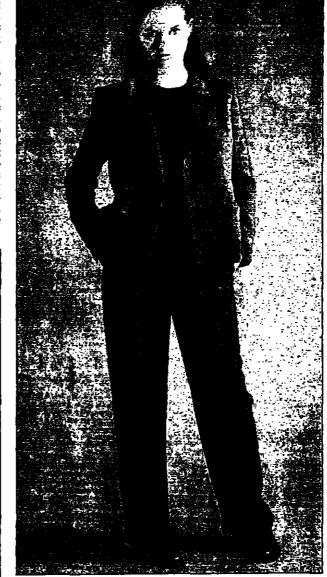
curves and emphasise waspish waists. Today, as then, the style is particularly flattering if you get the proportions right: a wider trouser leg takes the emphasis away from the hips and gives limbs a longer

and slimmer when worn with slim heels; the effect of a slender ankle offers the illusion of a long, thin leg beneath the flowing folds. Boots with heels are ideal to achieve this look or sharp, spindly sandals from stores such as Bertie, which has the perfect stiletto boot in black suede or leather for £75 (0171-935 2002), or Gina, which has wonderfully spiky slingbacks.

ear tight-fitting knits and small. shaped jackets, which make the legs look longer and the waistline narrower, to extend this look throughout the body. A

shape. The long, elegant look bustier, a nipped-in jacket, a is made to look even leaner tiny cardigan or a tight T-shirt will accentuate the flowing lower half even more, emphasising the floppy mass of fabric beneath the waist, but keeping the look slim and elegant. This season's shoulder-padded jackets are also ideal accompaniments, creating a severe version of the Joan Crawford hourglass silhouette that is angular and handsome.

if you are a woman who wears the pants, now is the time to step out in style. Forget slimline cigarette pants, bootcut styles, naff Seventies flares and stretch jeans. When it comes to striding out in trou-sers, the wider the leg-width and the more flowing the fabric, the better.



Double-breasted suit: trousers, £310, jacket, £615, Sonia Rykiel; black sweater, Browns, as before. Tan classic brogues, £175, Jones, 112 Jermyn Street, London SW1 (freephone 0800 163519)



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GARDEN ANSWERS



STEPHEN ANDERTON replies to readers' letters

Mr B. Davis of Lampeter and Mrs.
D. Hayes of Bedford both write to ask how to deal with a forest of suckers coming up from the roots of sumach trees (or possi-bly tree of heaven — Allanthus) blown down earlier in the year. Their concerns are how to kill the suckers without damaging lawns, and whether the suckers are poisonous to animals.

As Mr Davis points As Mr Davis points out, sumachs can live for years with barely a sucker. But if one blows down, as opposed to dying of old age or disease, then a of suckers will appear. All that energy has to go somewhere. If a live sumach blows over and you do not want suckers, then it pays to kill the stump with RootOut.

The garden species of sumach. Rhus typhina and glabra, should not be confused with poison sumach. Toxicodendron vernix. The latter is seriously poisonous, but the garden sumachs will only cause digestive disturbances in humans if eaten raw. I assume stock are even less susceptible.

I have a well estab-lished Hydrangea petiolaris clinging to the stucco on my house. I have been told that this plant. and ivy, can penetrate the stucco. When I took ivy off stucco previously, it left marks which I could not remove. Should I remove

the hydrangea and plant something else on this west wall? Could I turn it blue? Mrs M. Bishop, Newton Abbot, Devon.

A First, no, you cannot blue the flowers of Hydrangea petiolaris like the shrubby hortensias. If only you could. Imagine a vigorous climber with large blue flowers, for shade, Second, yes, the marks the remains of the hydrangea's aerial roots — linger for many years, especially on rougher stucco or pebble-dashing. Repainting the wall is the best disguise.

A council of architectural perfection would be to remove the hydrangea, and indeed, if the stucco is at all in poor condition, then the hydrangea will open up the cracks and let water in to freeze and burst the stucco. On the other hand, if the stucco is sound, why not enjoy the hydrangea for a few years? The canopy of the plants will offer some frost protection to the stucco. The most efficient selfclinging climber, without aerial roots but with less invasive suckers only, is the small-leaved creeper Parthenocissus tricus-pidata Veitchii'.

 Readers should write to: Garden Answers, Weekend, The Times, I Pennington Street, London El 9XN. We regret that it may not be possible to deal with every request. Advice is offered without legal responsibility. The Times also regrets that any



Sir Peter plays Caliban to Lady Parker's Prospero.

Twin pools mirror their makers

ME AND MY GARDEN: SIR PETER PARKER

e have Sir Peter Parker to thank, in part, for the Japanese garden in Holland Park, west London, and for the fact that so many of our remaining railway stations are floriferous. And that in turn is thanks to Lady Parker, who tarned her seascape-loving husband and trained him in the beauty of the garden.

Soon after he took over as chairman of British Rail, Sir Peter brought hanging baskets to his local station, Charlbury in Oxfordshire. "I was a pale, city child," he says. The first garden of his childhood, in Hull, was very tiny and completely unmemorable. The seaside was my playground". A leading industrist (currently the chairman of Mitsubishi Electric) and still an active member of the Establishment, Sir Peter has a remarkably other-worldly air.

For him, garden influences

Jane Owen

visits an estate where minds are entwined

> were sown young even if they took time to germinate. During his childhood in Shanghai (his parents moved there from Dunkirk in 1931) the Buddhist monks of a nearby temple let him and his gang play in the temple

Far too boisterously. I think. But I remember how sculptural the gardens were. His fascination with Japan brought him the chair of the Japan Festival in 1991 and that in turn brought London the Japanese garden.

In London the Parkers are masters of a minute. Japanesestyle garden; in Oxfordshire they



are masters of 60 acres, six acres of which are cultivated. At first glance the style of their country garden is classically English but then, on closer inspection, the style is more unusuai.

Apart from a few areas, the garden is largely the creation of Lady Parker, a Notting Hill GP and chair of the British False Memory Society who has written about the making of the garden in The Purest of Pleasures (Hodder and Stoughton, now out

of print).
The "Garden of Desire" is carved out of an acre of old orchard bought from a neighbour only a year ago. Mirabelle plum trees and pears are a reminder of the garden's past.

Sir Peter's next project is to have
a ghost village of ironwork structures made, gazebo-like, over this newly annexed area, which was a village as recently as the last century.

This is my mockery." he says of a small rockery-like area by the house, where alpines grow alongside a couple of heathers that have been "smuggled in", as Lady Parker puts it, frowningly.

The two Parker styles are at their most obvious in the water

garden. Her pool is romantic and uneven with a self-seeded rose arching over one edge and a 💆 pair of picturesque ducks which choose her pond, not his, to come and mate in. His pool is formal and symmetrical, studded with white water tilies and rippling with koi carp. A fountain plays at one end and two tiers of incredibly well-disciplined Alchemilla mollis cascade along one side.

The garden floats above layer. upon layer of history: a Roman road, probably more Roman remains in the form of a large villa. Saxon remains and then, not far beneath most of the garden, a pattern of stone and cobble floor which once traced out possibly the biggest private house in 15th-century Britain. Minster Lovell, the romantic ruins of which can be seen from most points in the garden.

"Jill delegates sitting in the garden to me. I'm good at that." says Sir Peter.

"I never get a chance." says

SPECIAL! PRE-SEASON OFFER



Sir Peter's pond reflects his more formal approach to garden design: geometric, with a fountain at one end, water lilies on the surface and koi carp below

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in favour of space for more is that anything above eye-Willows, limes, ash, planes

Have fun with a vegetable bed of runner beans, cabbage, fennel, kale and courgettes

Woodman spare that tree

Instead of clearing out your new garden you could join up the dots, says Stephen Anderton

hen you move into a new garden it is all to easy to want to remove randomly placed trees and shrubs, to make some open space and give the garden a breather. And it is all two easy to regret it later. Sometimes they can be ex-

tremely useful.

One of the recognised ways of making a small garden feel larger is to break it up into even smaller units, to make a sequence of corners and arwith different characters.

Sometimes those lonely shrubs or unnecessary trees cast out on a sea of lawn can be linked together to make the bones of new internal divisions in the garden. Think about it before you chop.

Try making a sketch of the garden and seeing how the shrubs or trees might be linked together. Think of it as a giant join-up-the-dots game, where you must make as many alternative shapes as possible. Usually something appealing will emerge. You might, for instance,

want to make a secret corridor down one side of the garden for growing vegetables. One small tree out in the lawn might mark the corner of this, its canopy hiding the length of the corridor from the house. You could separate the corridor from the rest of the garden with a long line of runner beans, back to back with a row of some tall herbaceous plant. Rudbeckia 'Herbstsonne'

bh-7ft, with lemon-yellow flowers in late summer. It grows like a rocket, both upwards and at the root, so if you bought, say, four plants you could divide them into 20 the next autumn and have a complete screen of plants by

the following year.
You could join up the dots
with trellis fixed to posts
instead, covering it with honeysuckle, clematis and sweet peas. For an evergreen screen you could run the trellis through with a large-leaved ivy, like *Hedera colchica* or its cheerful yellow-variegated variant 'Sulphur Heart'. It always warms the heart, even on a cold winter's day.

If there is a lonely young tree out on the lawn, why not give it a partner and make an entrance of it, pillars leading to a grass path flanked by a pair of new parallel borders? Don't worry that the trees are not the official distance apart. They will not be large open crowned specimens in a small garden anyway, and it is better to think of trees as temporary architecture.

Use them for instant height and prune them hard to keep them to scale. They need not be there for ever. This is the beauty of a garden broken into many little units - the odd tree can come and go and never be noticed when it goes because you are not making an overall picture but a series of intimate spaces.

You may have a deep shrubbery which you want to scrap

however, a light scattering of leaves does no harm at all.

Finish dividing herbaceous plants now and complete any of the remainder in the spring. An exception to this rule are the aconitums (monkshoods) which sometimes come into leaf before Christmas and will then need dividing early, even though they flower late. Aconitum carmichaelii can be in full flower, like a royal blue delphinium, in October. Divide it as soon as flowering is over.

detailed planting. A hellebore garden, or somewhere to grow ots of special primroses and dogtooth violets.

t could be a lot of work to clear the shrubbery and there may be no need. Consider saving the biggest or the most interesting of the shrubs, and making a winding path of bark chips among them. . If you really needed to maximise the growing space, then stepping stones would give you even more soil

Use the join-the-dots technique again and consider which shrubs you might save to make an interesting mean-der from A to B and whether the path would fork to give you a side exit as well as one at the far end. Do you want a more open centre to the shrubbery, a little glade and to thicken the planting around the outsides, so that the whole area is

The marvellous thing about small enclosures such as this passing time to a garden.

height will give you privacy from what lies on the other side. It is an idea you can play with, by cutting a peep hole in a hedge, or making a minivista to be seen through the fork of a tree. Offer a glimpse

through the side of a rose-smothered arbour with a table and seats, from a winding path which runs behind it; or a Shakespearean 'chink" in a wall like a garden confessional. You may like

Tall: Rudbeckia the idea of divid-

ing the garden into intimate spaces, but may think the to make a manageable tree, or existing trees are too many and too big. Some species you can reduce ruthlessly just by pruning, and you need not lose that height altogether. More to the point, you can then keep the old trunks, which always add dignity and a sense of

and even oaks can be pollarded, cutting the crown back in winter to make a new head on the existing trunk. Two to avoid are cherries and laburnums, which hate this treatment. Old hollies can be reduced

March pruning to narrow columns, or even to large formal lollipops, should that serve your purpose. Dreary, moth-eaten old vews can be reduced to a totem pole, from which will spring new branches. These can be grown on

Herbstsonne

turned into topiary if you prefer. Holly and yew can be cut off at ground level and will quickly make manageable bushes again. Saving them alive and making use of existing trees can be the fastest and easiest way to a full and compartmented garden.

Earth up celery and leeks to blanch them, and winter brassicas for stability. Keep celery well watered, as the tenderest celery is always the fastest grown. ■ Early pears will be ready to pick

now. Watch all varieties and pick as and when ready.

Keep ponds free of the worst leaf fall from trees. See that alpines and cushion plants are not smothered by

fallen leaves, and watch for slugs

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give a straighter effect, make parallel spade cuts at right angles to the edge and peel back the turf with a spade in strips. Insert fresh soil below and roll back the turf to lie at a constant level. The edge can then be recut. Humps in the grass can be taken out in a similar way by removing soil below the turf.

Fallen leaves should not be allowed to lie for long on the lawn. especially if it is newly-seeded grass, or fungal infections can cause patches to die out. In dry weather,

HOMES & GARDENS



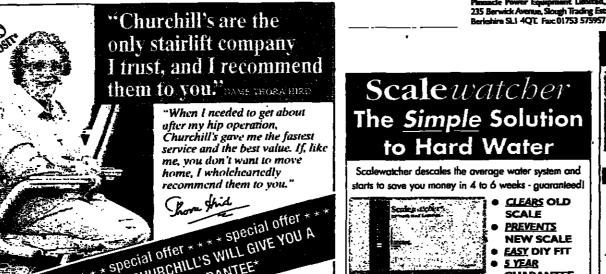
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Devolution puts owners in real state

Prime Scottish property could be blighted by tough parliamentary

tax-raising, says

Tom Rowland

ichael Mackintosh and his wife Sheila bought their pretty country house near Auchterarder in Perthshire ten years ago. Now it is for sale, and Mr Mackintosh says that he will be glad when he is shot of it.

Owning even moderately expensive houses in rural Scotland could become markedly more costly in the aftermath of the devolution vote. "I voted in favour of a Scottish parliament but against giving it tax-raising powers." he says.

Now he is concerned at the

prospect of an Edinburgh-based parliament introducing a swingeing property tax that could both destabilise the market and frighten away outside investors. The couple are fortunate; he is an

executive in the water industry and is moving to a new address in Scotland for professional reasons. but he is also brave because he is prepared to voice openly fears that many vendors of far more extensive holdings will only mutter privately. What will happen if extremist

politicians take power in Edinburgh and attempt to fund policies through a heavy property tax? What will be the effect on sporting estates of the new Scottish parliament's influence on the right to roam and have access to land?

John Brown, director of the agent DTZ Debenham Thorpe, who is selling the house at an asking price of £245.000, is forthright: "Never before has a country decided it wants to pay more tax." he says.

Not recently, anyhow. But tax rises tend to look more appealing to electorates when somebody else is in line to pay, and in Scotland, where land-holding in many areas is still concentrated in a few hands and there is a wide perception of many absentee foreigners being involved, rural land and grand houses look a soft target.

Houses like the one the Mackintoshes are selling could get caught in the crossfire. They pay council tax of about £1,300 a year. In much of Scotland the figures are already higher than for comparable places in England, and if the



Michael and Sheila Mackintosh outside the country house near Auchterarder in Perthshire that they are glad to sell, fearing the advent of swingeing property taxes

Exchequer grants are reduced these figures will be set for hikes even before any new tax is levied. "Many Scottish politicians do not like the way we currently manage the big sporting estates and would like to see them split up and farmed intensively." said Guy Galbraith, of agents Savills in Edinburgh.

roposed new legislation guaranteeing the public a right of access will also have a dramatic impact on big estates, he argues: "At the moment there is an understanding between landowners and ramblers, and the law of trespass is rarely exercised. A right to roam will alter the balance," he said.

Savills has already had a potential buyer questioning the wisdom of proceeding with a major purchase because of worries over devolution. Land ownership remains a politically contentious issue in Scotland. The ease with which passions are aroused is well illustrated by the phenomenal support and media attention given to the campaign by the 63 residents on Eigg to raise £1.5 million to buy their island earlier this

As Lord-Lieutenant of Roxburgh and chairman of the Lord-Lieutenants Association, the Duke of Buccleuch refrains from political com-ment. However, he is Scotland's largest private landowner with an estate of 261,600 acres in the lowlands etween Edinburgh and Dumfries. Drumlanrig, one of the five estates, is set in the valley of the river Nith and is the biggest single block of estate land owned in the UK.

"What I suppose people are concerned about is that the Scottish parliament will have powers over land use and access," says Mark Gibson of Brodies, an Edinburgh-based solicitor currently selling the 40,000-acre Glenfeshie

estate in Highland. The Atholi estate around Blair Atholl comes complete with a whitewashed, turreted castle and covers 148,000 acres. It is owned by



Duke of Buccleuch: largest private owner

Duke of Atholl. Sarah Troughton and the Blair Trust. The Earl of Seafield and his son Viscount Reidhaven have 101,000 acres stretching from the centre of Aviemore through Grantown-on-Spey. The Duke of Westminster

owns 95,000 acres in Scotland, much in Sutherland. Donald Cameron of Lochiel is not far behind with 76,000 acres. He is the 26th Lochiel to own the vast lands of moor and mountain west of Loch Lochy and the Great Glen. The compact, square castle of Achnacarry stands close to the fast-running river

Arkaig.
All of these properties are likely to be affected by a Scottish parliament. "Some people are worried that they might re-introduce a sporting tax whereby owners pay so much per stag shot, or salmon caught and so on," says Mr Galbraith. Foreign owners may also

be disenchanted by the latest political developments. Overseas, mainly Dutch, buyers came over with a rash of land speculation in the 1970s. In the past few years, the Danes have moved in heavily, investing alongside

Greentop Lands and Estates, the

Scottish-registered branch of a Liechtenstein company, is a good example of the trend. According to Andy Wightman, a new edition of whose book Who owns Scotland was published this year, it owns 12 properties in Scotland amounting to around 30,000 acres and ranging from the 9,650-acre Claonaig estate in Argyll to farms of just a few

uslan Cramb, in his book Who Owns Scotland Now?, articulates the growing groundswell of opinion in Scotland that the landownership system will have to be reformed if local communities are to benefit from the land around them and if the vast, desolate, lossmaking estates are to achieve their environmental, biological and economic potential.

Whether such reforms will take the shape of tax increases, as Mr and Mrs Mackintosh fear, or new rules and regulations, will depend on the new Edinburgh parliament. Either way the future of Scotland's vast estates is uncertain.

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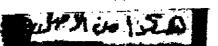
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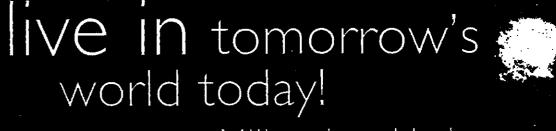


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Exposed beams, lots of space and plenty of history make medieval hall houses desirable places to live. Chris Webb reports

The fate of a grand manor house in Harrow rests on the outcome of a £2 million Heritage Lottery Fund bid. due to be announced this month.

Headstone Manor, now owned by the London Borough of Harrow, was first recorded in 1300, and in 1344 it was granted to John Stratford, Archbishop of Canterbury, who built a grand medieval hall house. Precisely how grand has only just been discovered by English Heritage, which recently carried out some digs which showed that the hall had four bays rather than the two bays previously known.

The house has been added to and subtracted from over the centuries, and a grant will enable the local authority. Harrow Heritage Trust, and Harrow Arts Council, the joint applicants, to organise an authentic restoration.

They hope the work will be finished for the millennium, when it will become a heritage centre, set in restored topiary and herb garden surrounded by a water-filled moat.

Thousands of hall houses more than 500 years old survive throughout the country, not as museums but as homes. Most are halftimbered, and they are rivalling the Georgian rectory in popularity with house buyers, according to Richard Page, of John D. Wood. The company has just sold Crown House at Cowden, Kent, a late medieval hall house with Jacobean and Queen Anne additions. The £400,000 house has exposed timbers, including a decorated 15thcentury crown post in the roof.

Mr Page says: "These houses are always in demand. They are often Grade II-listed, are in good locations, and their history makes them of immediate interest. They often divide into four bedrooms and three bathrooms to make comfort-

Another example being marketed by the company is Pound Farm at Blackham, Kent, a £395,000 four-bedroom hall house with a drawing room, dining room and study downstairs. Like Headstone, the house, which has 20 acres of land, was altered over the years so that it now has a gabled porch and is tile hung, with a brick

Mr Page says: "Hall houses are a particular feature of Kent, Sussex and Surrey and usually jetty out at first-floor level. I was told the weight of the roof bears down on the joists that support the jetty, and that heavy oak furniture counter-balanced this weight. You now see modern versions which can cost more than the real thing."

From Anglo-Saxon times to the

Living in the grand manor





Ian Hurley outside the hall house in Cowden, Kent, which he converted from a pub into a family home. Right, the medieval crown post that supports the roof

ACTOR Ian Hurley has just sold his wonderful medieval hall house in Cowden. Kent - and has bought another one across

John D. Wood has just sold the £400,000 house, which Hurley converted from a pub into a home for his wife, Teresa, a solicitor.

and three young children.

Hurley bought the house four years ago and says the best thing about the eight-bedroomed house, which is thought to date from 1480, with Queen Anne and Jacobean additions, is its historic atmosphere, and

l6th century, many houses had an

open hall of one storey, built with

either carved timbers or a box

frame made from green oak or elm, the walls being filled in with wattle

into the earth, which encouraged rot. but from the 1300s they were

stood on stone pads to increase

their lifespan. A fire would be lit on

a hearth of stone slabs laid in the

At first, the timbers were just set

now he is hooked on it. "Restoration has become an interest." he says. "It's

middle of the hall, and provided the

only heating in the building, the

smoke being left simply to seep through the roof. The hall was used

for formal business, entertaining

and dining - a high table would be

placed here. At one end was an

enclosed area to which the house-

holder would withdraw for privacy.

This area, the solar end, often had

an upper floor. At the other end (the

lower end) were the services - a

very satisfying. We found a crown post in the roof, which is octagonal and decorated. This may have been a manor house for a while - it had a Jacobean hallway with moulded tie beams. It would have been quite prestigious.

We did a major restoration here. We stripped back the walls, cleaned the rafters and replastered using sand and lime plastering, and we exposed a Jacobean

LONDON AND COUNTRY ESTATE AGENTS

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE - Denham

HOOKED ON HISTORY

buttery, pantry or brewery and

perhaps a kitchen — and a door in the side wall, usually with another

doorway opposite. There is specula-tion that this enabled people to

enter from the leeward side of the

house, a good move to minimise the

The main differences between

hall houses built for a lowly

peasant farmer and for a lord of the

manor are in decoration and scale.

choking effect of wood smoke.

ceiling. Almost as soon as we moved in here, we had a conservation officer here who searched our skip! I love the winters in these houses when you can light the big fire in the inglenook and burn logs with different smells - apple, oak and ash.

"The wattle and daub that fills in between the oak frame is not good insulation, but central heating can make the house cosy, and anyway we feel the cold is quite healthy. The five-bedroomed house he has bought

is smaller, with no extensions, and will also

12ft, while grander, later houses

had a whole wing at the solar end

set at right angles to the hall.

Matthew Slocombe, of the Soci-

ety for the Protection of Ancient

Buildings, says: "Headstone

Manor has a very rare example of a full-height hall. But we would not

want to strip out the floors in hall

houses because they are a valid

part of the buildings' history and

need complete refurbishment. "It's an aesthetic thing that I enjoy," says Hurley. "It's lovely to uncover an inglenook

fireplace and perhaps an iron fireback behind an ugly Fifties fireplace. You can sit there and work out why a door is there, and that the ceilings are low because the first floor was added to the

existing open hall. "I believe the people who built these houses were very colourful, and I like to imagine how they used to live communally

in the open hall." They could be small - just 15ft by development. Anything pre-1550

> good chance of being a hall house." There is no doubt that Throckmorton Court, near Pershore. Worcestershire, is the real thing: it was described by Pevsner in his Buildings of England as: "A splendid, timber-framed late medieval hall and solar of circa 1500. Today the house still has its

that is not a town house stands a

though it has been modernised and now offers four bedrooms with their own bathrooms, a staff flat and a granny annexe. There are 246 acres, two moats and an indoor swimming pool. There are also stables, two cottages and a tithe barn. Knight Frank is offering the property at a guide price of £1.25

Cross Farm, Kidmore End, near Reading, is a Grade II-listed, double-ended hall house dating from the later 15th century. It has a great hall with a queen post roof, and even a priest hole, but has been adapted to provide seven bedrooms and four bathrooms. It has just sold with Savills at £950,000.

The house has wooden mullion windows, a heated pool, a billiard room, music room and a wine store, as well as five reception rooms, six bedrooms, outbuildings and three acres of gardens.

Humberts sold the Grade IIlisted Downstreet Farmhouse, at Piltdown, Sussex, the first day it went on the market. A potted history of the house has been written by a local historian.

The house, which had a guide price of £550,000, dates from 1295, when it was on the medieval route from Lewes to London. It was timber-framed then but was later faced with brick.

the Care

2013 2713

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ow the company is marketing a splendid tim-ber-framed hall house just a stone's throw away, on the same road. Little Shortbridge dates from around 1500, but has been restored by the present owners to provide a luxurious four-five-bedroom home in 14 acres that include tennis courts, a billiard room, garaging and a vegetable garden and has a guide price of £650,000.

Stephen Rickards, of Sevenoaks, Kent, a building surveyor who specialises in conservation, says most of the hall houses he has surveyed date from the 14th

"Hall houses pre-dated putting floors right across the building partly because smoke had to go somewhere, and one of the things I look for in a survey is smoke blackening of the roof timbers.

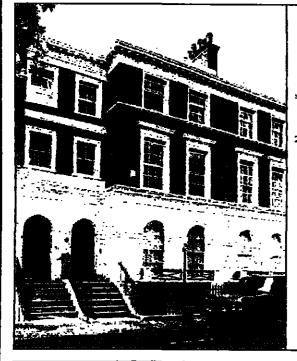
"Maintaining these houses is very important. It's best to do a little often, replacing loose roof tiles, clearing gutters, and keeping ivy out. Central heating, if used for anything more than background heating, can damage the timbers. but there are usually plenty of fireplaces with which to heat

 John D. Wood: 01342 326326.
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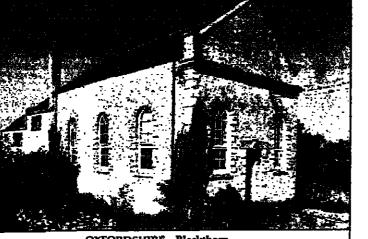
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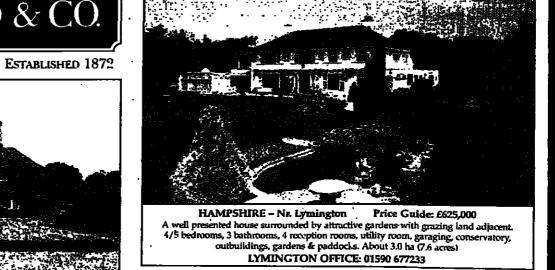


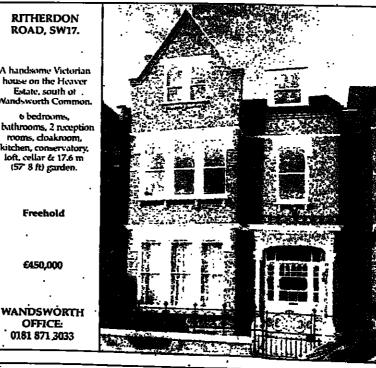
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The ultimate status symbol



hris Webb reports

Rich men at play: Robert Maxwell with Forbes

Looking for a place in the sun? For \$10 million, Malcolm Forbes's island could be

all yours, writes Alex O'Connell

🖊 ou don't have to wear a Trutsky donkey iacket or sleep with Dus Kapital under your pillow to feel uncomfortable when a man buys an island for his own private fancy, complete with indigenous population. Sadly, the late Malcolm Forbes, staunch Republican, chairman and editor-in-chief of Forbes, the respected US business magazine, didn't suffer from such po-faced liberalism.

When Forbes bought the 3.000-acre Fijian island of Laucala in 1972, he was looking for a unique party venue. rather than just another family retreat. Loved and loathed for his Gatsbyesque generosity, unusual hobbies (he nearly killed himself ballooning over the Atlantic) and crude status symbols, he once spent millions on a party in Tangiers.

At the time of purchase, he already had a ranch in Colorado, an estate in New Jersey, a Wren-designed house London, a château în France, (with a balloon museum) and a palace in Morocco (home to the world's largest collection of toy soldiers). But Forbes was interested in acquiring a kingdom that had what he called "idvllic factor", and trawled the islands of the South Pacific for more than three years in order to find the virgin beaches and green seas of Eighties Martini ads.

with an obsessive motorbike fetish (he owned more than 70 and gave his friend Elizabeth Taylor one called Purple Passion), died in 1990. This week his self-sufficient tropical pardise is going on the market for \$10 million (£6.35 million).

Because Laucala is situated only 190 miles from Nadi, site of Fiji's international airport and 135 miles from Suva, the capital, those who grow weary of the sunshine and warm waters can fly back to rejoin the outside world with minimum fuss.

Although there are more than 844 islands and islets in the archipelago (only 100 are inhabited), Laucala is special because it has running water, electricity and a huge potential for tourism.

The island was appealing enough for William Bligh, the hanless captain of the Bounty, to stop and take note of its precise location, although he never made it on to the beach. The scenery is everything you would expect of the hyperbolic world that travel bro-

chures love to call Paradise.

There are stunning coral reefs,

shell-coated beaches and lifetime's supply of Bounty

The mountainous interior is rugged and beautiful with rainforests, exotic birds, topheavy mango trees and the sort of giant ferns usually restricted to the pages of dinosaur books.

orbes's home is situated at the highest point. Squinting down on his kingdom, he could keep his chests of gold under surveillance and pre-empt attacks by modern-day pirates. The house itself is not extravagant, although a little selfconsciously simple.

There is a living room.

terrace, kitchen, two bedrooms, two bathrooms and a swimming pool at the front. Seven holiday homes with woven walls and cathedral thatched roofs, (known locally as hures) nestle under the palms and look out to sea. Perfect accommodation for

The Plantation House sits on the edge of the hill. Built in 1926, it is a wood-framed building with a wide veranda. high ceilings and rattan furniture. Forbes, known to both friends and employees as The Boss, held extravagant dinners there for visiting disciples. The island janitor will

shack up in the Manager's

House, which has two bedrooms, a veranda and sea

> Every empire needs education, religion and snacks; happily there is a school, whiteframed church and general tore, built by Forbes.

> The village itself is home to Fijians who work on the island, and there are roughly 220 of them. A Canadian couple presently manage the island and maintain tourist

activities with the help of 55

According to the brochure, they are friendly people". known for their enthusiastic greeting of "Bula!". It further reassures the nervous poten-tial buyer: "The islands are free of malaria . . . [there are] no dangerous land animals or crocodiles ... Enjoy nature without risk."

Agents: Knight Frank: 0171-629 S171



Star guests: Forbes entertained Elizabeth Taylor

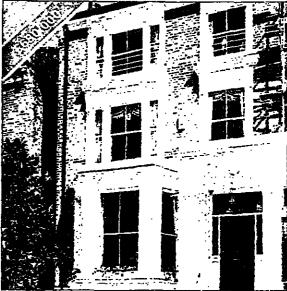


Island idyll: Laucala, the ian hideaway. The la Malcolm Forbes had his own home built high in the mountains. But his party guests could luxuriate in the seven extravagantly appointed holiday homes known as bures (above and left)

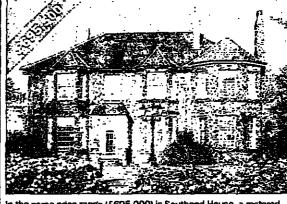


£1.5 million - coupled with increased demand from city buyers conversions at £315,000 and three and four-bedroom Victorian terraced houses, with large gardens, near Clapham Common, at

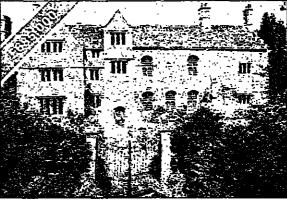
rily homes are moving to the countryside around Corondge and lexham, 15 miles west of Newcastle, where prices have increased by up to 10 per cent this year. Country houses look cheap, priced from £300,000 for a six-bedroomed Georgian house in five acres. Country houses in more than five acres of horse paddocks, costing from £350,000 to £650,000, are like gold dust in Northamptonshire With St Pancras an hour by train from Kettering or 35 minutes from Milton Keynes, the whole area is commutable and highly sought-after opular areas include fox-hunting country between Northampton and farket Harborough and west towards Banbury, where prices have



For £630,000 you could buy this four-storey semi-detached four-bedroomed Victorian house, with a garden, in The Chase, Clapham Old Town, near Clapham Common underground station (Friend & Falcke, 0171-498 0736).



In the same price range (£695,000) is Southend House, a restored nine-bedroomed Victorian mansion in a four-acre garden at Whitburn to the east of Newcastle, Tyne & Wear. It comes with a baliroom Savills, 01904 620731).



A similar sum (£685,000) will buy a manor house fit for a king in Northamptonshire. The 12th-century Grade II*-listed Manor House at Brigstock, in four acres of garden and paddocks, was once owned by King John. It has ten bedrooms, five reception rooms, a separate self-contained two-bedroomed flat and outbuildings

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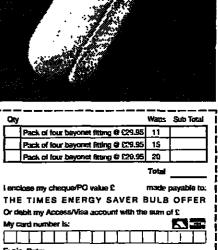
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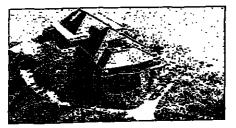


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DREAM ISLANDS



DAVID AND FREDERICK BARCLAY. owners of The European and The Scotsman newspapers and The Ritz, bought the lease of the island of Brecqhou (right), one of the Channel Islands. in 1993 for £2.3 million. They built an imposing mock-Gothic castle with a chapel, two indoor swimming pools and an indoor all-weather garden, at a cost of around £27 million. The island also has its own water and electricity supply.



RICHARD BRANSON owns the paradise island of Necker (left), one of the Virgin islands in the Caribbean. He bought the formerly uninhabited, 74-acre island from Lord Cobham in 1979 for £200,000-£300,000 and had a Bali-styled ten-bedroom house built of Brazilian wood on Devil's Hill. The island, with its own lake, has a freshwater swimming pool on the edge of the hill. a tennis court and a gym.



has an airstrip, a six-room schoolhouse. several bungalows, sawmills and the actor's luxurious palm-thatched mansion.

MARLON BRANDO owns the beautiful South Pacific island of Tetiaroa (left), the largest of a chain of undeveloped islands which he bought for £20,000 during the filming of Mutiny on the Bounty in 1966, and has used as a retreat from the rat-race in Hollywood for himself and his family. The island, which is only accessible by air, now

A VET WRITES

We bought a British Shorthair kitten from a reputable breeder about a year ago. She had been given all her inoculations. About a month after we had her, she developed breathing problems and a discharge from her eyes and nose. We've taken her to the vet countless times. She's had X-rays. blood tests and antibiotics. Now we are told she has a chronic sinusitis which is likely to recur and there's no cure. She enjoys life, eats well and seems healthy except for this catarrh problem. Can anything be done?

A number of vets specialise in feline medicine. Ask your vet if he thinks a consultation would help. I think the chances of a complete cure are poor. It appears your kitten was infected with cat flu before you bought her, although there may not have been any signs at the time. Vaccination isn't effective, the germs are established and can't be eliminated. You'll be happier if you get a second opinion and it is quite likely that treatment will improve

I read in The Sunday Times that 65 dogs and 69 cats died in quarantine last year, which is 1.6 per cent of the 8.178 animals imported. I think this is terrible and, in itself, a reason for abolishing quarantine. What's your

The "if only" factor comes in — if only he hadn't had to go into quarantine. But every pet dies one day. Quarantine lasts six months, so 1.6 per cent in half a year is slightly less than one would expect. Rabies has occurred more than once in quarantine in the past 30 years and the "hardly ever happens argument" makes no more sense than scrapping the smoke alarm because the house hasn't caught fire.

Our labrador puppy is Our labrator puppy nearly six months old. We don't want to breed from her. When will she come into season and when should she be spayed?

Her first heat will prob-March. She will be old enough and spring is the natural time for dogs to mate. Ask your vet when he prefers to operate. Some suggest that the bitch has one season first so that she is fully developed. Others feel it is better that the operation is carried out earlier - any time from now onwards. There is nothing wrong with either approach.

JAMES ALLCOCK

The friendliest way to join the rat race

Forget the verminous image and cuddle up to an affectionate rodent, writes Alistair Riley

'If there

are no

rats in

heaven.

I'm not

going'

ats have always had an image problem. They are seen as filthy, verminous, creepy creatures that steal food, transmit diseases and destroy

farmers' livelihoods. The rat population in Britain is soaring - a 1995 national rodent survey concluded that rats now outnumber humans in But that is only one type of rat -

the one that is high on Rentokil's most wanted list, the subject of the nightmare of Room 101 in George Orwell's Nineteen Eighty Four. A rat by another name - the domestic Fancy Rat - is fast becoming one of Britain's favourite household pets.

The two are as different as chalk and the stuff put in mouse traps. Domesticated rats are the same species as wild rats (Rattus norvegicus) but have entirely differ-Horn, who keeps 30 rats at her Southeast London

home. They are the per-fect affectionate pet and don't carry disease like wild rats. They are ideal for city-dwellers in small flats and working people with irregular hours. Just as long as you play with them and look after them properly before you go out and when you

They adore companionship. There can be a doglike bond between rais and their owners. They can tell

the difference between people and love you once they get to know you. "They come when I call and jump up on to my body for a kiss and cuddle. A rat I've bred and sold might come up and say hello when I meet it as much as a year later at a rat show. It's very touching."

They also need a few friends to sniff and talk to, otherwise they get bored and lonely. But keep the sexes apart, unless you have a planned breeding programme in mind. Put a male rat among a few females and you will have dozens of extra mouths to feed. A female rat, a doe, can have a litter of up to 20 babies every month after just two months of her expected two-year lifespan.

"Or even earlier — a sort of ratty gymslip mum of five weeks old," says Angela, who is a leading light in the National Fancy Rat Society. which holds its 21st anniversary symposium in London today for the benefit of its 600 members and the rest of the country's growing number of rat-lovers.

One has 150 extremely active rats and another keeps her former rodent companions in the freezer until she can make suitable burial

Another doesn't mind if her pets join her in the bath, and a fellow member sums it up by saying: "If there are no rats in heaven, I'm not

On show will be varieties ranging from the rare Himalayan, with its white body, red eyes and sepia brown points on nose, ears, feet and tail, to the more common hooded, with its white body with coloured hood covering head and shoulders and extending in a con-

tinuous line down the spine to the tail. Speakers will talk on the history of the Fancy Rat, common ailments and how to treat them, genetics, ratkeeping and showing the Fancy Rat. There are dozens of rat shows around the country annually, where judges place emphasis on health and temperament before considering

On sale will be the society's bi-monthly magazine — called *Pro-Rata*, with small aids ("rat-sitter wanted") and a hatched, matched and dispatched column. Sadly, most of the notices are for dispatched rats, wishing them well in ratty heaven. The society is wired up for the millennium, and has its own web site on the internet.

Angela Horn and her husband Graham decided to keep rats three years ago when they moved to London and couldn't have large

They started off with Snowie the albino, Patch, a black-and-white hooded, and black Sweep; they have had in total more than 150 rats. though never more than about 30 at



Tickling the fancy: the domestic Fancy Rat, affectionate and ideal in small flats, is fast becoming one of Britain's favourite household pets

a time, and they give away most of the babies. (There is little money to be made in breeding rats. Even a top quality specimen fetches only £8.)

Angela and Graham say it costs about £2 a week to look after a couple of rats, after an initial outlay

They spend E5 weekly on rabbit food, with occasional dog mix, for her 30-strong ratpack, and another £200 to £300 a year on vet fees. mainly on neutering or having tumours removed.

She spends about an hour playing

feed, and the same again in the

"That's how much I love rats," she says. "And so would anyone else who gets to know them. You'd be surprised how much fun and mischief there is packed into one small



Dulcie: needs a quiet home

DULCIE is a six-year old female car who was brought in to Wood

Green Animal shelter after her owner died. She is loyal and loving and would suit a quiet, caring Contact the Wood Green Animal Shelter, Highway Cottage, Heydon, nr Royston, Hertfordshire (01763 838329).

FANCY THAT

■ The National Fancy Rat Society's symposium is at Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London WCl, today from 10am. Admissi inclusive of lunch).

For a leaflet on ratkeeping send a large SAE to Angela Horn, 26 King's Orchard, Eltham, London SE9 5TJ. ■ NFRS website: http://www.cableoi.co.uk/nfrs.



Rats enjoy companionship. Angela Horn plays with hers for an hour each morning and evening after

Are horse-whisperers taking people for a ride? Carolyn Henderson meets the real thing



Richard Maxwell: understanding horses' body language

Evans novel about a horse whisperer galloped to the top of the bestseller charts, there was a surge of real-life claimants to the title. Some claim to be able to read horses' thoughts, others massage "unhealthy auras" and yet more relate behavioural problems to a horse's

past lives. It is a phenomenon that leaves many vets and experts bemused, amused -- and worried that horses might suffer because owners tend to put sensational claims before science and skill.

The classic one I had was a horse who was presented as being very stiff." says Andy Bathe, equine surgeon at Cambridge University Veterinary Hospital and vet to the British

three-day event team.
"The owners said, 'We've had the back man and he didn't do any good. Then we erer and he couldn't help, so we thought we'd better try the vet." The horse actually had navicular disease in the front feet, which made it lame.

"I've had two other horses brought to me that horse whisperers said had kidney problems, but the problems turned out to be in the feet. I'm open-minded, but I've yet to be impressed by a

Classical riding teacher Heather Moffett agrees. There are a lot of charlatans, and it makes me cross that they are taking people's money. I do believe that there are people who have a healing gift, but there are an awful lot who have simply jumped on the bandwagon. I know one woman who was told that her horse was unhappy because he didn't like his name!"

Walks like a man, thinks like a horse

Trainers who work wonders without claiming psychic powers are now having to fight to distance themselves from mumbo-iumbo, Richard Maxwell is a prime example — a man who thinks like a horse, whose success is rooted in his understanding of the horse's

psychology. By using the horse's body language and working with its instincts, he achieves results that are making conventional trainers take a new look at their approach. He has had can think of at his Cambridgeshire yard - rearers, bolters, and buckers - but of the 800plus horses he has dealt with, only a dozen proved impossi-

ble to help. A former member of the Household Cavairy, Maxwell trained with the American horseman Monty Roberts, who broke in a wild mustang for BBCI's QED series.

Nigel Davenport, chairman of the National Equine Welfare Council and director of the Blue Cross horse protection scheme, says trainers like Roberts and Maxwell are "the modern way forward". He puts his faith in vets and proven trainers rather than

He says: "When someone

comes out of nowhere until it looks on him as the and starts saying strange things, I take it with a pinch of salt.

"It's good to see more

compassion in training — but the good horsemen and women have always worked with compassion. There's no point in getting a horse to do things

if he's in pain." Max, as everyone calls Max-well, winces at the label "horse

whisperer" and talks about understanding instinctive be-haviour. People talk as if it's some kind of mystic art that only a few people in the world can do. It's not." he says. *Of the horses that come

here, 98 per cent have physical problems," Max says. His first step is to put these right with the help of dental, manipulative and veterinary specialists. He then tunes into the horse's natural communications system to build trust and respect,

herd leader. The process, where he shows the horse that staying with him is more comfortable than running away. plays a key part. "You make him accountable for his actions," he explains. Max says he is never fright-

ened. "The minute fear enters your mind, you have to stop. If you take fear to an animal which is already frightened, you add to it. Fear travels through your muscle tone and the way you move. It probably changes the way you smell. ton. Horses have a good sense of smell and an incredible sense of movement and direction - if you move in a frightened way, they'll pick it

● Richard Maxwell can be contacted on 01223 830886. He is fully booked for the next three months, but does demonstrations throughout the country. Details on 01202 849 [3].

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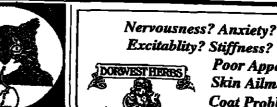


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WAY SENTENDAY SEPTEMBER

e rat rac

A sudden flood from a hot-water hose and a hunt for the stopcock can dramatically destroy your confidence in the family home

t is 7.45am on Friday and I am moving about in what I hope is a calm yer purposeful manner ("Never run," a soldier of my acquaintance once advised me, "it only panies the men", trying to put a dent in our as-yeunblemished record of last child delivered to classroom by bursting-lunged mother. This morning, I say to Alexander, as I have every morning for the past two weeks, we are definitely going to get

to school on time.

Accordingly, we have risen with the dawn, eaten our toast and Marmite and enjoyed a small amount of civilised conversation: "Who is my favourite character in Star Wars?" Alexander wants to know. I refrain from saying Jabba the Hut, which is the truth, and plump for Han Solo, before realising that I can hardly answer, "because I quite fancy Harrison Ford", to the next question which is, of course, "Why?"

I have issued the child with his school uniform, together with a detailed description of what the linde boy-eating monster who lives at the bottom of the knot hole in my bedroom floor will do to him if it isn't on, the right way round, yes, all of it, by the time I come back upstairs

Building up to a nervous breakdown And indeed I am just about to walk clately back up the stairs, get dressed, ut my cycliner on and set off for school pouring all over my sedately back up the stairs, get dressed, put my cycliner on and set off for school in a quiet and orderly fashion when !

hear the sound of running water. Have I left a tap on in the bathroom? I have not. In the kitchen? Nope. But these are the only two places in the house from which water might run, so what is with this noise? It is coming from the region of the boiler. More than that I cannot tell, on account of the fact that the house is done up in a style of Shakeresque minimalism that was the last word in chic when we bought it. The fridge, the boiler, the cuploards, the shower - all are clad in a seamless expanse of white tongue and groove bourding. And behind it, invisible but sinisterly audible, water is flowing. As I stand gaping in the kitchen, a trickle emerges from the cupboard under the sink and forms a puddle on the floor. From it, a small cloud of vapour rises.

I am transfixed. My house is having a

kitchen floor. Worse, the building that I have always felt was my protector, the only fixed point in my rather turbulent life, has turned against me and is dying before my

Oh really, I say to myself. Get a grip. Where is the stopcock? How do I know

where the stopcock is? Do you know where the stopcock is? Well, yes, I expect you, dear reader, know exactly where it is, and could put your hand upon it any time you felt inclined. But out here in girly-land, where our lists of Important Things To Do begin with "I. Ask Rachel whether Rouge Noir nail varnish now

LIFE AND SOUL



will be publicly torn off and it will be all

my fault.
The flood advances another half-inch towards me. I turn on the hot tap, rather hopelessly, and say to Alexander in an 1 Am On Top Of This Situation sort of voice that it will be all sorted out by the time he gets home, promise. [Don't

Cupboard.

Monitor's stripes

worry, mum," he says brightly, "I'll mend it for you when I get back." At this too hopelessly passe for words" and end with "26. Make rate, he may very well have to.) Will", Find How To Turn Water Off At the Mains is right

Back from the school run, I open the front door and find that the hot-water lake has now proceeded as far as the dining-room floorboards, artistically down there with Fill stripped only weeks ago by Darren the Unterly Reliable Builder. Suddenly I recall that the man who did the In Tax Form and Clear Out Kitchen And now it is 8.30 structural survey made some remark and if we do not about a stopcock. This is the first useful thought I have had all morning. I splash leave the house this to the cupboard where the survey is filed, minute we shall be late yet again and Alexander's Milk

and turn to the page marked Plumbing.
The mains stopcock is concealed without the tongue-and-grouve housing to the lavatory cistern," says the report. We recommend that access be provided as a matter of urgency." Oh, great, Still, it is a start. Now, where is the torch? It is not in the turch cupboard. Last time I saw it, it was fixed to the front of the spacecraft in which Alexander was flying to the aid of the universe. Armed with the only means of illumination I can find — Alexander's Thomas the Tank Engine flashlight - I wade to the bathroom and, lying prostrate on the floor, apply the flashlight to a minute aperture next to the U-bend. At first, all I can see is Thomas's imbecile grin. projected on to the brickwork opposite me. But then the gleam of a little metal rap detaches itself. I stuff my hand into the hole and turn.

The sound of running water stops. Well, that's it, really. An impassive man came and sorted it all out ("Got a hole in your hot-water hose, love"). He had to jemmy the sink out with a crowbar first, mind you. I mopped up the lake and it was, as promised, all back to

normal by the time Alexander got home. Except that it isn't quite back to normal. I used to love that house like a friend but now, as I wander around it. I keep noticing things that are wrong cracks in the wall, flaking paintwork, a nasty patch of damp festering in a beam. ominous creaks and groans at the dead of night. When we moved in, it was fashionably distressed. Now it feels more like a building on the verge of a nervous breakdown. And somehow, I don't trust it quite the way I used to.



Third Agers: There is active life after the age of 65

Grandpa, what do you get up to all day?

hausted by life at the age of 45, grandparents used to conform to consoling stereotypes. Grannies permed their hair into tight grey curls and took up crochet; grandads puffed on their pipes and pottered among their plants.

A curious thing has hap-pened in the past few decades. The age of exhaustion is getting higher. With role models like Olympic sprinter Linford Christie (a grandad at the age 35), grandpa Mick Jagger still prancing and pout-ing at 54, and gorgeous granny Nanette Newman, this third generation is no longer content to decline gracefully into small people in slippers. They are all too busy finding themselves.

The 18 million people in Britain aged 50 and over have a higher life expectancy than ever before (74 for men and 80 for women, compared to 45 and 49 respectively in 1901). Typically, they have got rid of their dependents, finished paying off their mortgages, may have inherited money and are living for themselves. Total consumer spending in the UK in 1991 was £335.5bn. People over 50 spent £148.5 of this, 8 per cent more per person than average.

One grandfather of my acquaintance took up surfing when he retired and now spends much of the year on a beach in north Cornwall in

Forget crochet and croquet: grandparents are worrying their children, says

pursuit of the perfect wave. He has begun to get something approaching a surfer's body and would probably have grown a pony tail if only he were not bald.

One widowed grandmother joined a dating agency, fell in love and remarried only to lose her second husband within five weeks - because, it was widely rumoured, of too much sex. With an impressive disregard for what the neighbours might think, this Granny Spice has now taken up with the man down the road.

Granny power is every-where. The surfer and the serial monogamist do not think of themselves as OAPs or as anything with connotations of fading, reduction and decline, but as Third Agers. They have time and money and they mean to make use of

A recent survey for Saga Services, the personal finance company targeted at people over 50, found that their customers' largest annual ex-

Geraldine Bedell

and that those holidays were becoming increasingly adventurous. This group also splashed out on cars and home improvements. They have acquired sweatshirts instead of shawls (liable to get caught in the snokes of the exercise hike) and swapped the crochet for yoga, which they ideally like to practise on a Greek island or

in a Tibetan monastery. This is disturbing for their children. For many of us, the notion of celebrating Grandparents' Day (today) by rushing round to our parents with talcum powder and chocolates could not be more misplaced.

For one thing, they probably would not be in. Between my mother's U3A (University of the Third Age) classes and committee work for the adult education institute, art galleries, theatre, music, fitness, etc, it is practically impossible to make an appointment to see her. If you want her to babysit, you have to ring her up weeks

The writer Jilly Cooper is an eloquent champion of sixtysomething romance. "Now that I am 60 I understand the lust and longings of this age group. I like to think of it as sex between autumn flowers -

Glamorous grandfather: Linford Christie, now a venerable 37, an Olympic sprinter — and also a grandparent

he added: "My son was horrified when his grandparents decided to sleep in separate bedrooms - he thought they were getting a divorce. My mother took him to one side and said: 'It's only because grandad snores so much, but don't worry, we still have our nice times."

There are some wonderful old ladies here in Gloucestershire. One grand old dame got herself a lover at 80. When asked if it was platonic, she replied, 'Certainly not, but I do ration it to twice a week. Another resigned as head of a Women's Institute, confiding to a friend that it was so she could have sex in the afternoon.

This older-person dating worries some adult children enormously. It is always difficult to think of your parents having sex, but to think of them actually choosing to do it with someone new, and for

disgusting. Rampaging Third Agers are also posing new protocol and etiquette problems. If, for instance, your mother and her lover come to stay, should you put them in the same bed-

John Morgan, author of Debrett's Guide to Etiquette and Modern Manners who also writes for The Times, says: "Just as the modern parent has to be accommodating about their offspring's love life, today's grown-up child must not be puritanical about the born-again sex life of a parent.

"Traditionally, you are supposed to ask the woman what arrangement she would prefer, as it is generally accepted that men would always rather have a double bed. So ask your

● John Morgan's advice on

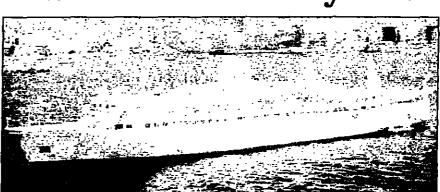


Mick Jagger: A grandfather - and still rocking at 54



Nanette Newman: Actress, grandmother and only 58

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VICTORIA TRAVEL, the gardening cruise specialist, has arranged a special package for Times readers, departing from Dover on the Black Prince on Sunday, November 23, 1997. The Times party on the 13-night cruise to Madeira and the Canaries will be led by Stephen Anderson, the gardening correspondent of The Times, and Ashley Stephenson, gardening expert.
For bookings made by the end of July, prices start at 6699 per person for a three birth cabin. Port

charges, insurance, drinks and gratuities are extra. There are excellent restaurant, leisure and entertainment facilities on board the Black Prince which can carry 440 passengers.

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Day 1: Departs Dover at 5pm on Sunday 23 November, 1997. Day 2: cruising, Day 3: visit Vigo, the departure point of the Spanish Armada. Day 4: visit Lisbon, the vibrant capital of Portugal, Day 5: spend the afternoon in Gibraltar. Day 6: cruising. Day 7: visit Las Palmas, the capital of Gran Coneria. Day 8: spend the day in Tenerife. Day 9: arrive at Funchal, the capital of Madeira at 9am: Day 10: depart from Funchal at lpm: Day II: cruising: Day 12:

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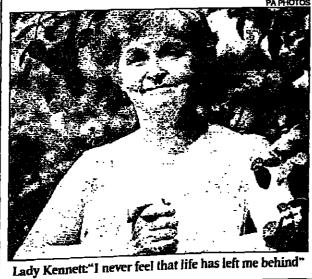
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'The day I kneed a burglar in the groin'



KENNET, who LADY writes as Elizabeth Young, is the wife of the hereditary peer Lord Kennet, who served in the Minstry of Housing and Local Govern-ment (later the Department of the Environment) in Harold Wilson's government.

"My first great-grandchild was born on the day last year that I kneed a burglar in the groin," she said. "I have six children and a large number of grandchildren. Old age has not resulted in any reduction of my activities: I have fewer people to cook for now and more time to get on with things I'm interested in. I haven't given anything up.
I'm a writer by trade and

about - political matters. arms control, architectural history - don't go away. I've contributed close on 5,000 words to the Government's defence review and I'm to-wards the end of helping to organise a conference on the EŬ fisheries policy.

"SOME old people do have a miserable time. But I'm not built to sit back. One's older friends do die off, which is miserable, and those abroad don't travel so much, but we do. This year we've been to Italy and France. My husband, who is 74, is in Ukraine this week. We're going to Romania later in the year and hope to go to India in December. We live part of the kinds of things I write

the time in Wiltshire, where we're involved in campaigns to protect Stonehenge and "Obviously we're busier

than younger people, be-cause we haven't got so many things that we've been building up. I'm not as interested in clothes as I used to be, but I've got enough old ones put away for when the fashion next comes round. I was looking today at a pair of stilettos that I bought 20 years ago that will be just the job for Christmas. I never get the sense that life has left me behind. That really is the last thing it's done."

> ARABELLA WARNER

Can video collar their mass exodus?

The Catholic church hopes a film will solve its priest-recruitment difficulties, says Ruth Gledhill



Father James McCartney at his parish church of St Anne's

s vocations to the priesthood drop below replacement level, the Roman Catholic church has taken the unprecedented step of preparing a recruitment video promoting the joys of becoming a priest.

The video, to be issued to 4,000 secondary schools next month, counters the image of the celibate Catholic priesthood as a Ballykiss-angel-style idyll, or job devoid of excitement and dominated by a ceaseless round of saying Mass and hearing confession.

The priesthood is portrayed instead as an exciting and demanding career. likely to appeal to a wide range of young men seeking a

challenge in life. And while priests don't have much to write home about in terms of salary or wordly status, the aim is to persuade schoolboys that the spiritual and emotional rewards far outweigh the lack of material remuneration on offer.

The unparalleled recruitment drive comes at a time when the number of annual ordinations has fallen by a quarter in Britain, from 101 in 1978 to 76 in 1994. In 1994 alone the church lost 100 priests who passed away, on top of those who left to marry or for other reasons, meaning the replacement level is far below what it needs to be if the Catholic church is to sustain its ideal of a priest in every parish

Figures for this year are expected to be even worse, with most low morale among priests after the affair of Roderick Wright, the Scottish priest who eloped with a divorcee amid a torrent of publicity.

The British decline contrasts with a healthy picture worldwide, where the number of young men entering seminaries to train for the priesthood has increased from 60,000 in 1975 to 105,000 in 1994.

The only significant departure from the British decline came after the Pope's visit in 1982, when vocations shot up for two or three years. The same phenomenon is currently being reported in France, in the wake of the Pope's recent visit

And in a further blow to the church, Catholic schools, once considered a rich recruiting ground for the priesthood, are being hit as increasing numbers of former pupils are breaking with tradition by sending their sons to non-Catholic schools, such as Eton. instead. From having a mere handful of Catholic boys in the 1970s, Eton now has 142 Catholic pupils out of a total of 1,280 and has even appointed a resident Catholic chaplain. Father David Forrester. to care for their spiritual needs. Blaise Davies, a former monk at

Ampleforth Abbey, Yorkshire, was commissioned to produce the video and poster campaign at a vocations conference in Rome last year. The footage features a young offender. once a notorious absconder from care who earned the nickname Spider Boy, in his conversion to Christianity and subsequent bap-

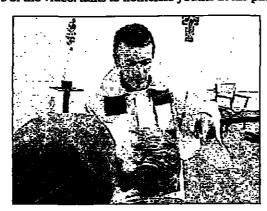


Fr McCartney, one of the stars of the video. talks to homeless youths in his parish. He has set up Thomas, an organisation helping those on the margins of society

tism. It shows two priests, Fr James McCartney of Blackburn and Fr Philip Sumner of Moss Side, Manchester, in their work with drug addicts, the homeless and people living on the margins of society.
It also shows hospital chaplain

Fr Stephen Pritchard of Fazakerley. Liverpool, working with the terminally ill, and Fr Mike White of Alton Castle Retreat Centre in Derbyshire working with schoolchildren. The life of the trainee priest in a seminary in Chelsea. London is featured, as is the work that goes into preparing couples for

"In no way are we proselytising." says Mr Davies. 32, who decided the priesthood was not for him because of his desire one day to have a family of his own. Nevertheless, he still supports the ideal of the celibate priesthood and worked



closely with Ampleforth for several years, leaving recently to set up his own company. Purple Media.

"Negative images of the clergy in the wake of the Roderick Wright affair, coupled with more lighthearted ones such as Father Ted and Ballykissangel, do little to

video shows a young offender converting to Christianity and being baptised by a prison chaplain, Father Patrick Cope

The recruitment

population which has little to do with church about the day-to-day challenges facing the average priest." he says.

inform the 96 per cent of the

"It was not uncommon a generation or so ago for priests to suggest to young men that they may have a

"It was accepted at that time that the priest was part of the family and he featured greatly in their Such an environment, coupled

with regular churchgoing, made

vocation to the priesthood. he says.

priesthood normal and made marketing it relatively easy.
Now, with all the social changes and the prominence of churchrelated scandals, many members of the clergy feel, albeit falsely, that their currency has been devalued and that their relationships with

lay people are viewed with

Fr McCartney, 35, the parish priest of St Anne's, Blackburn, says he left his former career as a

hospital technician to find spiritual satisfaction as a priest. At St Anne's, he has set up Thomas, an organisation to help

zine. Edges, carrying articles by bishops alongside articles and poems by drug addicts, prostitutes and homeless people.
"I was interested in the spiritual

also publishes a quarterly maga-

dimension, in transcendence and mystery," he says. "Working in an operating theatre at Manchester Royal Infirmary, I began to question the meaning of life. I came across a lot of people who were dying. I didn't really find fulfilment

in what I was doing."
In his parish, in the heart of Blackburn's red-light district, he finds spiritual satisfaction in seeking God among the ruins of the lives of those who attend his day centre. Many are being helped by him to escape lives blighted by drug addiction and alcoholism "Without the people on the streets, I don't think I would have been

NOT ANTIQUE

God's message is one of hope

Dr Jonathan Sacks

osh Hashanah — the Jew-ish New Year which beish New Year which begins this Wednesday evening — signals the start of ten days of intense self-examination culminating in Yom Kippur, the Day of Attonement. For me these days have never lost their power to create an atmosphere of vivid spirituality. The synagogue is full. And from the sound of the ram's horn on Rosh Hashanah to the climax of the fasting and prayer on Yom Kippur, you can almost touch the divine presence.

We come before God, bringing Him our lives and our shortcomings. We think of the past year, the wrong we did, the people we hurt and the good we failed to do. For a moment, the

synagogue becomes a courtroom and God a judge We plead, not our innocence but our all-too-frequent guilt. Yet despite the solemnity of this drama, its ultimate message one of hope. The reason is that at

God's love is the bridge the heart of these days is the idea of divine forgiveness. God does not ask us to be perfect. In giving us freedom. He empowers us to make mistakes. All He asks is that we acknowledge them, make amends where we can and dedicate ourselves to doing a little better next time.

Forgiveness is a profoundly religious idea. It flows from a particular conception of the universe and our place in it. Reality is more than a set of blind forces. the genetic stream, the survival of the fittest, the march of technology or the play of the market. Beneath them all, more distant than the stars, closer than our innermost thoughts, is a Thou to whom we speak in prayer and who speaks to us in the silence of self-knowledge. God is the face of otherwise faceless chance, our one assur-

ance that hope is not an illusion. Without God, fate would seem immeasurably cruel. The poor, the sick, what the brother of Diana, Princess of Wales called "the constituency of the rejected". would be the victims of inexorable forces - war, famine, economic progress. There would be • Dr Sacks is the Chief Rabbi.

no reason to suppose things could be otherwise. But if at the heart of the universe there is a God who cares, no fate is final. Reaching out to God we find Him stretching out His hand to us, giving us the strength to begin again. Our worst failures can be overcome. Our worst wrongs can be forgiven. More than we believe in God, God believes in us. I recently visited a drug rehab-

ilitation centre. I wanted to deepen my understanding of repentance (in Hebrew, teshuvah). On the Jewish High Holy Days we believe that by reflecting on the past, seeing where we went wrong and expressing our remorse, we can break

its hold on us and change into better human beings. I thought that by ralking to young drug addicts trying to break the habit. I would gain an insight into what changes lives. It was a profoundly moving ex-

ridge perience. They were likeable young people who had never had much of a chance. They came from broken families. Many had a history of child abuse. I could understand why they wanted to escape from pain. I admired their courage now in

fighting addiction. I asked the director what, in her view, were the most important things the centre gave them. She said: "This is the first place they have encountered unconditional love. And we are the first people who care enough about

them to say no." The more I thought about it. the more I realised she had expressed the great truth about God's love for us. It is nonjudgmental. There is an absolute difference between good and evil. right and wrong. God cares enough about us to say no. But it is unconditional. However often we fail, God never gives up on us. For me, that belief is the source of courage, strength and hope. God's love is the bridge from what we are to what we are

called on to be.

First steps on a journey into the light Ruth Gledhill visits a London parish which has acquired

not only a retired bishop as its new vicar, but also his son



ing without a vicar of their own for more than a year, the parishioners of St James in Clerkenwell, north London, are still in a

state of elated surprise, having landed the ministry of not only a retired bishop, but of his son as well. The Right Rev Michael Baughen, 67, a traditional evangelical who shot to ecclesiastical prominence during his time as rector of the BBC church, All Souls in Langham Place, and then became Bishop of Chester, has been appointed priest-in-charge of St James. His son Andrew, 33, also an evangelical but from the more modern mould of HTB (Holy Trinity Brompton in Knightsbridge), has become

priest-in-charge designate. Bishop Baughen intends to be present at the church for as many Sundays as possible and will



share the preaching with his son: "It will be wonderful to work with my son. He has tremendous gifts abd it is a great delight to be able to learn from him."

We were at the church, which counts The Guardian newspaper

building at one end of its parish and poverty-ridden council estates at the other, for the licensing and installation of the two men. Bishop Baughen is tall, but his son is more so, at 6ft 6in. Towering over his father, he unveiled his plans for this unsuspecting parish. The journey into the light" was to begin with toddler groups, a Tuesday club for the elderly. aerobics and uniformed clubs. There is to be "JC Works", a tenweek introduction to Christianity. "TGI Sunday", a fast-moving bible, drama and singing show on Sunday mornings and "JC Access", an evening discussion. music and preaching group. Christians are not asked to leave their current churches, but maybe to "take a sabbatical" and "come as a launcher" to St James. The

AT YOUR SERVICE ★ A five-star guide ★ PRIESTS-IN-CHARGE: Right Rev Michael Baughen and son. ARCHITECTURE: Founded 1100,

repeatedly rebuilt, landmark steeple ****
SERMON: Witty, erudite, long.

MUSIC & LITURGY: Historic 1792 George England organ. ***
AFTER-SERVICE CARE: Chilii-came, home-made cake

key words are praying, building, loving, submitting, speaking, giv-

ing and receiving.

First there was the licensing by Dr John Sentamu, the Bishop of Stepney, also an evangelical, who preached, and the installation by

blond baby Baughen toddled around, demanding cuddles from her father. Father and son publicly declared their assent to the Anglican inheritance of faith. The Church of England is part of the One, Holy Catholic and Apostolic church worshipping the one true God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit," the archdeacon said.

of Hackney. Rachel Baughen, wife of Baughen-the-younger, read

from Philippians. A beautiful,

"I Andrew, 1 Michael, do so affirm, and accordingly declare my belief in the faith which is revealed in the Holy Scriptures and set forth in the Catholic Creeds," said the two men. I left, pondering the phenomenon of evangelicalism enjoying a revival in our churches, but reflecting that this was one parish at least that was truly Baughen again.

● St James, Clerkenwell, London ECIV 4NP (0171-251 1190)

Church services tomorrow

Last day before Armageddon ARMAGH CATHEDRAL: 10 HC: 11 M. Canon H J W Moore: 3.15 Ch E.

BANGOR CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 Cymun Bendigaid; II Ch M. Te Deum in F (Ireland); 3.15 Ch E: 5 Gosber. BELFAST CATHEDRAL, 10 M. I will lift up (Vaughan Williams): 11 S Euch: 3.30 Ch E.

BIRMINGHAM CATHEDRAL: 9 MP: 9.15 HC: 11 Ordination. Let all mortal flesh (Bairstow); 4 Ch E.
BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 9.15 Ch M: 10.30 Euch, Missa Brevis (Palestrina): 4 Ch E, Canon Hall. BRECON CATHEDRAL: 8 H Euch: II Euch, Sumsion in F. The Dean: 3.30

BRISTOL CATHEDRAL: 7.40 M; 8 HC: 10 Ch Euch, Ave Maria (Faurė): 3_30. Responses (Smith). CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL S

HC; 9.30 M; 3.15 E. Rev G Davis: 6.30 Sermon & Compline.
CARLISLE CATHEDRAL: 10.30 Ordination, Ireland in C. Canon R.

CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL: 7.30 MP; SHC; 9.30 Euch, Canon D Knight; 11.15 S Euch; 6 Ch E. CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL.
Oxford: S HC: 10 M. Canon Webster: 11.15 S Euch, Mass for four voices

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL Dublin: 11 S Euch, 3.30 Ch Euch, Harwood in A flat. COVENTRY CATHEDRAL: 7.40 MP: 8C; 10.30 Euch. Missa Brevis in C

(Mozart), Canon P Oestreicher: 3 Farewell Service for Bishop of DERBY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 10.45 S Euch, Little Organ Mass (Haydn), Canon T Chesterman; 6 Ch E.

ELY CATHEDRAL: 8.15 HC: 10.30 S Euch, Schubert in G: 3.45 E. EXETER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 9.15 M: R) Ordination. Missa Sancti Nicolai: 3 E: 6,30 ES, Canon A GLOUCESTER CATHEDRAL: 10.15

ach, Canon R Gray: 3 E, Collegium Regale (Howells). HEREFORD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 10 Euch, Missa Brevis (Mozari), The Archdeacon of Hereford; 11.30 M; 3.30

LEICESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC:

10 M; 10.30 Euch, The Assistant Bishop; 4 Ch E. I lift my eyes (Baughen). LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 10.30 S Euch, Ave verum corpus (Byrd):

LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL: 8 MP: 10.30 Euch: 3 Harvest Festival, Let the people praise thee (Mathias); 4 HC. LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M & L: 8. 9 Euch: 11 S Euch, Sumsion in F; 12.15 Euch; 3.30 Festal E: 6.30 Parish E. NEWCASTLE CATHEDRAL: 7.30

Canon I Bennett: 6 Ch E NEWPORT CATHEDRAL: 10.30 M. Jubilate in A (Gray): 0.30 S Euch.
NORWICH CATHEDRAL: 7.30 MP: S HC: 11 Ordination of Deacons: 3.30 Festal First Evensony of Michaelmas; 6.30 Young People's Euch.

PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL: 9.30 M; 10.30 Euch, 3 E, Blair in B minor, Canon J Tetley. PORTSMOUTH CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 9.30 C: 11 S Euch, Missa O Quam gloriosum (Vittoria): 6.30 E. Canon T

RIPON CATHEDRAL: 8 Euch: 9.30 Ordination; 11.30 M; 12.30 Euch; 5.30 E. Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 9.45 M: 10.30 S Euch, Beati Quorum Via (Stanford); 3.15 First Evensong of St Michael and All Angels. SALISBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC:

10 M: 10.30 Ordination: 3 E, Geistliches Lied (Brahms), Canon J Davies. SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 9 Euch: II Ordination; 3 Ch E. Give us the wings of faith (Bullock), Provost. SOUTHWELL MINSTER: 7.30 M & L: 8 HC: 9.30 C: II S Euch, Stanford in

TRURO CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 4 M; 10 S Euch; 3 Guide Dogs for the Blind Service: 6 E. Murrill in E. The Dean. WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 8 HC: 10 M; II.15 Euch, O Lord increase my faith (Loosemore): 3 E: 5.45 Recital English Chamber Choir; 6.30 ES.

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: 7. Mass; 2.45 Organ Recital; 3.30 Vespers and Benediction, Ave verum corpus (Byrd); 5.30, 7 ES. WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 10

M, Let all mortal flesh (Bairstow); 11.15 S Euch: 3.30 E, Rev N Gardner. YORK MINSTER: 8, 8.45 HC: 10 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Palestrina): 11.30 M: 4 E, Canon P Ferguson. ST ASAPH CATHEDRAL, Clwyd: 8

HC: II Ch Euch, Stanford in B flat, Rev C A Mitchell: 3.30 EP. ST GILES' CATHEDRAL Edinburgh: 8. 10 MS & HC: 11.30 MS, Cantique de Jean Racine (Fauré): 8 ES. ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL Edin-burgh: S Euch: 10.30 S Euch: 3.30 Ch E.

Magnificat (Buxtehude). ST MACHAR'S CATHEDRAL, Old Aberdeen: II MS, O sing joyfully (Batten): 6 ES, Rev R Frazer. ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL Dublin: 8.30 11 Euch; 11.15 S Euch; 3.15 Ch E. Ward in F. Rt Rev L G Urwin.

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL 8 HC: 8.45 M: 11 S Euch, Darke in F. Canon 1 Halliburton: 3.15 E: 5 Organ Recital, RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CATHE-RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CATHE-DRAL, Ennismore Gardens, London, SW7: 10.30 Divine Liturgy, Kievan and traditional polyphony, Met Anthony, ALL SAINTS, Margaret Street, WI: 8 LM: 10.20 MP; 11 HM, Messe Solennelle (Langlais), Rev 1 Davies; 5.15 LM: 0 E & B.

CHELSEA OLD CHURCH, SW3: 8 HC: 10 Children's Service: 11 M: 12.15 HC: 6 E. Rev Dr P Elvy. CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Covent Garden, WC2: 11.15, 6.30 ES. Rev S Hood.

HOLY TRINITY BROMPTON, Brompton Road, SW7: 9 HC; II MS, Rev S Millar: 5, 7.30 Informal Service, Rev N Gumbel THE ORATORY, Brompton Road. SW7: 7. 8. 9. 10, 11, 12.30 Mass; 3,30 Vespers & Benediction; 4.30, 7 Mass.

ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH: II Holy Mass, Archbishop ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT, ECI: 9 HC: 11 M. Like as the hart (Howells); 6:30 Ch Euch.

ST BRIDE'S, EC4: II Ch M. Jubilate (Walton): 6.30 Ch E. Canon J Oates, ST CLEMENT DANES: II Ch M, Te Deum and Jubilate (Boyce in C): 12:30 HC, Rev D Mackenzie.

SCOTLAND, Pont Street, SWI: II; 6.30 ST ETHELDREDA'S, Ely Place: Il S Mass, Splendenic Te Deus (Mozari). ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square, Wi: 8.30 HC. II S Euch. Darke in F. The ST JAMES'S, Piccadilly: 8,30 HC: 11 S Euch, Rev The Bishop of Stockholm;

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF

6.30 Ch E.

ST LUKE'S, Chelsea, SW3: 8 HC: 10.30

MP. Rev C Kevill-Davies: 12.15 HC:

ST MARGARETS, Westminster, SWI: 10 M; II S Euch: II.IS Euch: 3 E; 5.45 Recital: 6.30 ES, Sister H Markey. ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS. WC2: 8 HC: 945 Euch: 11.30 Visitors to London Service, Rev A Hurst: 2.45 Chinese Service: 5 Ch E: 6.30 ES. ST MARY ABBOTS CHURCH, Kensington WS: \$ HC: 9.30 Euch: 11.15 Ch M. Rev P Stubbs; 6.30 E.

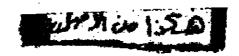
ST MARY'S, Bourne Street, SWI: 9, 10 LM; II HM. Missa Ave maris stella (Victoria): 6 Solemn E: 7 LM. ST MARY-THE-VIRGIN, Primrose Hill: 8 HC: 10.30 Euch, Rev D Jones: ST MARYLEBONE. Marylebone Road, WI: 8 HC: 11 Ch Euch, Give us the wings of faith (Bullock).

ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, SWI: 8, 9 HC: II Euch, Blessed city (Bairstow), Rev C Courtauld.

ST PETER'S, Eaton Square, SWI: 8.15 HC; IO Euch: II S Euch, Mass for four voices (Byrd), Fr D B Tillyer. ST SIMON ZELOTES. Milner St. SW3: 8 HC: II M. Benedictus (Takis), Preh M McGowan: 6.30 E.

ST STEPHEN'S, Gloucester Road, SW7: 9 LM, 11 HM, Simile est Regnum (Guerrero), Rev R F Bushau. CHAPEL ROYAL OF ST PETER AD VINCULA, HM Tower of London: 9.15 HC; II M. Factum est silentium (Dering), Rev P R C Abram.

CHAPEL ROYAL Hampton Court Palace: 8.30 HC; II M. For he shall give his angels (Mendelssolm), 3.30 E. GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Bar-racks, SWI: II M. Alas That I Offended Ever (Hooper), Rev M T Ball; 12 HC. ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHA-PEL, SEIO: II S Euch. The Chaplain.





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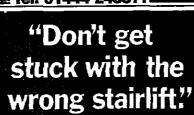
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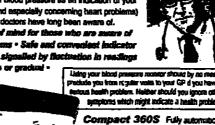
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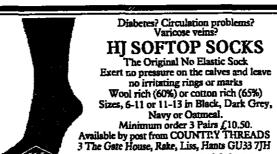
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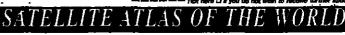
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Suffolk's medieval bouses: Calligraphy: At the Field Studies Centre, Flatford Mill, East Bergholt, Colchester. Essex (01206 298283), from E72-E102.

Walking in the autumn landscape: Guided walks on the North Downs of Surrey from Juniper Hall Field Studies Centre, Dorking (01306 883849). Prices from £79-£102, according to accommodation. Memoir writing: The work of Handel: A patchwork workshop: At Higham Hall, Bassenthwaite Lake, Cockermouth, Cumbria (017687 76276). Price per course £112

Talking with confidence, Japanese gardening. Towards the millennium: Miniature painting: At Missenden Abbey, Great Missenden, Buck-

From £159 residential or £69 non-residential.

Writing poetry: Medieval art: At Wedgwood Memorial College, Barlaston, Stoke on Trent. Staffordshire (01782 372105). Price per course £70 inclusive. Dig this, British archaeology; The green man: At Wensum Lodge, Norwich (01603 666021). Price per course £84

The high Victorian garden:
At University of Oxford,
Rewley House, Oxford, in
association with the Garden History Society (01865 270360). Price £44.

Illustrating autumn fruits and fungi; Myths, dreams and impossibilities: At University of Camrbridge, Madingley Hall, Cambridge (01954 210636). Price E117 per course inclusive.
Golfing enthusiasts' weekend

in Scotland: At Balbirnie House, Markinch, Fife (01592 610066). Two nights, including one round on Balbirnie Park golf course, with half-board accommodation. From £99.50 per person per night.

OCTOBER 10-12 Wildlife weekend on the coast of Pembrokeshire: With Acorn Activities of Hereford (01432 \$30083). Guided

WEEKEND COURSES AND ACTIVITIES

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Van Gogh; Aromatherapy and reflexology: At Braziers, Ipsden, Wallingford, Oxford-shire (01491 680221). Price per course £92.

Heritage Wessex tours: From the White Hart Hotel, Andover. Hampshire (01264 352266). Chauffeured visits to Salisbury Cathedral. Stonehenge, Winchester and Wilton House. Price, including halfboard accommodation, transport and entrance fees, £196 for two nights.

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ing, mountain navigation: Based at Edale in the Peak District. From YHA Adventure Trails (01727 845047). Prices for two nights from £93 per person; hang-gliding from

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Marine and coastal landscapes. The Jacobite challenge: At Belstead House College, Ipswich (01473 686321). Prices per course from £75 inclusive.

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ses; Land and freshwater molluses, Six Suffolk villages: At Flatford Mill Field Studies Centre. East Bergholt. Colchester. Essex (01206 298283). From £79 inclusive. Piano workshop: Painting miniatures: Walking sticks: At Higham Hall, Bassenthwaite Lake, Cockermouth. Cumbria (017687 76276). Price per course £112 inclusive. Intermediate French: Mixed media painting, Countryside walks and talks, Italian opera: At Hill Residential

Centre, Abergavenny, South

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English house, King Arthur, Hypnosis and relaxation: At Knutston Hall, Irchester, Northamptonshire (01933 312104). From £98 inclusive. Conservation weekends: With the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers. Wallingford, Oxfordshire (01491 839766). A variety of conservation projects need the help of willing hands. Week-end rates, full board and accommodation from E20. Skills taught include dry stone walling, thatching and hedge-

Pottery, throwing and turning. Watercolours for beginners: Opera and recital masterclass: Introduction to woodturning: At West Dean College, Chichester, Sussex (01243 811301). From £150 residential and E97 residential.

Personalities of the First World War. British teddy bears. What's that bird?; Walking the Ridgeway Path: At Missenden Abbey, Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire (01494 890295). Prices are from £159 full board, or £59 non-

ROBIN NEILLANDS

ON THE SPOT

Rural recommendations The place: Bolton Priory, Skipton, North Yorkshire

The view: Ahead lie the priory and River Wharfe and to your right, gentle slopes leading to Barden Fell, culminating in Simon's Seat, the highest point in the area. Barden Moor lies northwest and in autumn the landscape is a vivid golden brown.

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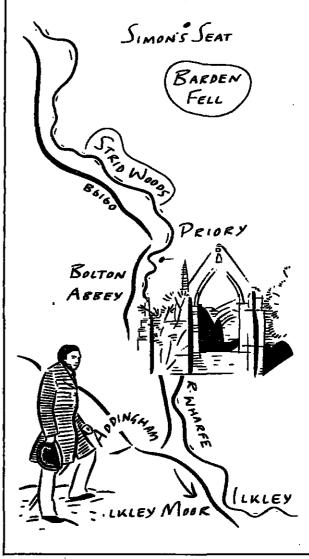
Historical interest: The impressive priory dates from the 12th century, when it was built for Augustinian canons after a young boy drowned in the deep, fast-flowing water of The Strid. The beautiful setting has inspired Wordsworth. Ruskin and Turner, who created a famous watercolour of

Time to visit: The grounds and nature trails are open all

How to get there: B6160 to Bolton Abbey. From the village car park walk towards the "Hole in the Wall", and cross the river by footbridge or stepping stones.

OS reference: 075 543 on sheet 104 Also nearby: 30 miles of nature trails through the Strid Woods. Fine trout fishing and six miles southeast lies Ilkley

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Satellite technology allowing rural dwellers to keep an eye on their neighbours could also kill off at least one cherished tradition

o get a proper view of the countryside, you have to get up high. And I do not mean halfway up a mountain. Just a few feet will do, and then you will find yourself peering into a new and unob-served world. Elevate yourself a little more and you will suddenly realise that the countryside you thought you knew is a stranger to you.

l first learnt this some years ago when I owned a pair of fell ponies. Ebony and China, which I drove around the Suffolk lanes. The box seat - from where the carriage was driven - placed me a couple of feet higher even than Range Rover drivers: add to that the bonus of travelling at a sedate five or six miles per hour, and meandering through the English countryside becomes

We found corrages in unsuspected places behind bramble-ridden gardens: we surprised gardeners who thought their beech hedges were high enough to prevent any intrusion; we gave cows a fright as we appeared over fences. An additional effect of the extra height was to

Sky spy threatens romp in the hay several miles, which offered a new appreciation of how our neighbouring

isolation, related to each other. So, having had a taste of wider vistas, I welcome the arrival next month of the EarlyBird satellite, which its commercial owners will use to supply spy photographs on demand. Although many of its customers will be fractious neighbours trying to settle disputes ranging from unauthorised car parking to illegal bonfire lighting, the effects on country

life could be far more rewarding. The pictures will be far from perfect, because only features greater than a metre across are visible. This rules out most individuals, but we will be able to spot the hedgerows that are being secretly removed, the 4x4 drivers churning along unauthorised trucks, and the irrigation ponds built with hefry subsidy

being used as swim-ming pools or trout lisheries.

farms and villages, until then viewed in Slender trespassers, for the moment, will get away with viding their rucksacks are not overowners who fail to keep open their foot paths can be spotted and acted upon, There is, of course,

a civil rights aspect to all this; country dwellers may well complain at the gross intrusion into their privacy. Rural crime is rare compared with inner cities, so the arguments in favour of closed-circuit TV surveillance hardly apply. (This may change. I was stopped in a local market

DOWN TO EARTH



had just "suffered a night of violence". On closer questioning, she revealed in a shocked voice that two lads who had drunk a bottle of cider too many kicked a football down the street at one o'clock in the morning for all of tive minutes.)

The ability of the satellite to pick up smaller details will surely increase. Farmers will soon be able to see where the rabbits burrow at night, which cars

drop old bedsteads by gateways at dusk, and identify the picnickers who discard

erisp packets on summer afternoons.

And in the field of pure nosiness, one of the traditional sports of country life, the satellite could be of great help.

ural nosiness is largely innocent and born out of honest curiosity. The best example know is that of farm workers a century ago. On Sunday afternoons, when farm work was suspended, their sport was to walk the lanes and peer over the gates of all the other farms, observing the standard of the workmanship and the straightness of the ploughing.

In extreme cases, such as wandering furrows, remarks were made later in the pub and legs severely pulled. I have often been tempted into nosy ways. We once had a neighbour who grew onions from seed with such success that his garden became a place of pilgrimage. If asked how he did it, his unhelpful reply was always "nowt special about onions".

above, and see the feed he was dosing them with, and whether it was by

moonlight.
Another enigmatic keeper of Suffolk Punches would never reveal his secrets of feeding carthorses. His horses looked like Mr Universe, but when asked how

he did it, he always replied, "they just eat what they get on the meadow". What they are there, of course, was more than just the grass. He was regularly carting buckers of something to them. But he took the secret to his grave. Had he been alive today, we could all have bought satellite pictures of his furtive feeding and have carthorses looking like Charles Atlas.

It is bad news for those confiners of farm animals who try and kid us they have free-range hens, cantle or pigs. We shall be able to see exactly how much time the inmates of Sunnyjoy Farm actually spend in the open air. The only bad news is that the spy in the sky will be the death-knell of one keenly pursued rural pastime that has stood the test of time. It involves haystacks. Work it out.

Readers' letters are welcome on countryside matters, of all kinds. Address them to: Paul Heiney, Weekend, The Times, I Pennington Street, London El 9XN. They are published on the first Saturday of the month.

New Forest ponies face a hard winter

getting more difficult future is looking delicate, to say the least."

Bennett, 68, lives in the New Forest, where he runs more than 100 ponies on the forest commons. He has been a New Forest commoner for more than 50 years, buying and rearing his first pony in 1946. Things were easier then, he

says. There was a market for the ponies he reared. Now there isn't. New Forest ponies have, sadly, fallen out of fashion, and their future is now in the balance. At this time of year the

commoners round up their ponies in the annual pony drifts just as they have for But this year as they worm

them, brand them or sell them where they can find buyers. many commoners are heavy at heart. Where once foals were selling for 80 guineas each, now they fetch just 11 guineas. Prices are very bad.

Through the years there has always been a demand for the ponies but now that has gone." he says. "The children of today want something bigger than a forest pony. And there isn't the demand for pit ponies any more either.'

The number of New Forest ponies has declined from 4,200 in 1994 to 3,300 today. Sue Westwood, Clerk to the Verderers, a sort of medieval court responsible for the management of stock in the New Forest, believes that the commoners will have to breed better ponies to survive.

The New Forest pony has not got the same appeal as some of the more flashy breeds such as the Welsh Cob," she says. "If this trend continues then commoning is at risk."

And if commoning is at risk. so too is the forest. "It is essential to the ecology of the forest. Commoning is the architect of the forest. If the stock Decline of the once-prized pets endangers an ancient way

of life, says Trevor Lawson



wasn't there, it would become overgrown and inaccessible," says Westwood.

Cattle graze the forest but they are subsidised because they are classed as agricultural animals. But ponies receive no subsidy. .

Each commoner — you have to occupy land which has common rights attached to be able to run ponies — pays £15 per pony to the Verderers Court, which then pays "agisters" to supervise the

"No commoner makes a living out of commoning any more. The cattle are more lucrative, but anybody with ponies has to have another source of income," says Westwood.

"People like to keep up a tradition, but not if it is losing them money."

Some 400 commoners exercise rights in the New Forest but few run the great herds of ponies that were once the norm.

"Nowadays we have hobby commoners. A lot people do it because they like to see ponies," she adds. People like to turn out two or

three ponies now."

Age commoners,"

Some of the old hands have suganother these gested incomers are not source of real ponymen. They are very difincome' ferent, these New

says Ray Bennett. They're not the same at all." Richard Stride, who is one of the forest's 10 verderers and whose great-grandfather was

a commoner, agrees: "They keep a couple of ponies for a hobby and they go off to London and say 'Oh I'm a commoner in the New Forest'. but riding two ponies is all

that the forest means to them." 'Anybody Despite their comparatively amwith ponies ateurish attitude. the incomers may yet turn out to be the saviours of the has to have New Forest pony.

Often, they are wealthy enough to be able to withstand the losses that are currently associated with commoning. Yet

their presence symbolises the increasing commercialisation of the forest, which has put further pressure on common

land. In the 1960s, an Act of Parliment allowed certain roads to be fenced off because of accidents. Some years later, more roads were fenced off along with certain towns as heavier volumes of traffic

rushed through the forest. One commoner, Chris Anderson, says that the failure of one of his mares to come in with other ponies in the drift this year is simply another symptom of the trend.

She might have been hit by a car and died in the bracken somewhere. More ponies get run down every year - there must have been 20 in the last couple of months," he says. Each pony lost, usually run over by a commuter rather than a tourist, takes with it £35 that might have been earned from a sale.

The fencing-off causes its

own problems. There is less cannot do anything else." Development, too, is taking

forest now for the ponies. "It's

getting smaller all the time,"

explains Ray Bennett. "There's

less area for the ponies to run

into Lyndhurst but they can't

do that any more. I am against

further fencing, but the

"They used to be able to go

amount of traffic now passing You can't blame the people moning is a fair-weather for doing it but they are through is so awful that they

its toll. Richard Stride, ex-

plains: "A forest man's place

used to be small and the land

just around it was used to

bring in livestock in hard

weather. Nowadays, it has

been turned into a mini-

mansion so the land is lost.

► REWARDING TIMES < Objects of Desire

THE MODERN STILL LIFE October 9, 1997-January 4, 1998 at the Hayward Gallery

Watching the wary woodpigeon

FEATHER REPORT

THE British Trust for Ornithology has a new method of estimating the changes in the bird population of the United Kingdom. It is called the Breeding Bird Survey, and during the past two years it has taken the place of the old Common Birds Census, which ran for 35 years. The main difference is that the sample of the country that is now covered includes all the main bird habitats, including towns and mooorland, whereas the old CBC confined itself to farmland, woodland and river banks.

Judging by the survey, the most widely distributed bird in 1996 was the woodpigeon, closely followed by the chaffinch, while the most abundant bird overall was the starling. closely followed by the woodpigeon. So the woodpigeon comes out strong. You would not be surprised by that

if you wandered through the newly ploughed fields at the moment. Sometimes you see in the distance what looks like an enormous mistyblue cloud that has settled on the earth. When you get a little closer you see that it is a great flock of woodpigeons busily feeding. It is hard to get close to the flock, since in the country woodpigeons are wary birds, but if you stalk them you will see one fascinating feature.

The whole flock is moving forward slowly across the field. But in the front the birds are looking round them more and pecking at the ground less often. Sometimes these front



Woodpigeon, chaffinch and starling: Widely seen in Britain in 1996

birds even look a bit smaller and undernourished. They are the sub-missive members of the flock, rather frightened of the great body of dominant members behind them. They are likely to lead the way when the flock is alarmed and rises from the field with a thunderous roar of clapping wings.

Starlings also feed in the fields in large flocks at this time of the year. but they seem to have plenty of spare time. A characteristic autumn sound

is a party of them sitting in a tree making whirring and clicking calls, and occasionally a more musical whistle or trill. They often do this before all flying off to roost together. Chaffinches also flock in the au-

tumn, but many of these are immigrants from Scandinavia. Often they are pure hen parties, since the females desert the north sooner and travel further than the males. They make their headquarters in trees at the edge of a field, and drop down to

the ground to pick up seeds when the coast is clear. At the first sign of danger they fly up into the branches again. There is a constant movement up and down as each bird follows its own impulse. At a distance they look like leaves falling and being blown upwards at the same time.

Another set of figures in the new

report shows changes in the numbers of different species between 1994 and 1996. On the whole, it makes cheering reading. Common partridges, which have been in serious decline for some time, picked up a little over those two vears, and summer visitors such as the willow warbler and garden warbler have made a recovery, suggesting that conditions have been better for them in their African winter quarters. Wrens, which a few years ago were the commonest British birds, were hit by the cold winter of 1995-96, but that is something that must have happened many times in their history. The farmland birds are still suffering most. The cheerful yellowhammer, which seemed to have escaped the fate of the corn bunting and linnet, has now joined them on the downward trend.

DERWENT MAY What's about: Birders — mixed flocks of Tits, Goldcrests and Treecreepers in woodland.

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reader evening

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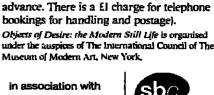
Museum of Modern Art in New York, brings together over 160 modern masterpieces from collections worldwide. Highlights include Marcel Duchamp's Bicycle Wheel, Man Ray's spike-covered iron, Gift, Matisse's Goldfish and Palette, Meret Oppenheim's fur-covered teacup and saucer, Object, a white Lobster Telephone by Salvador Dali, Renė Magrine's The Interpretation of Dreams, Jasper Johns's Flag, and Brillo Boxes by Andy Warhol.

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ruining the forest because they don't want to run scores of ponies and why should they? There's no real money in it. As the Ray Bennetts of the forest head off on horseback for the drifts this autumn. there will be little evidence of these "New Age" hobby commoners. For them, com-

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Is it a bird? Is it a plane?



What the **Dickens** is going on here?





Helmet diving is advertised as the only underwater experience in which you can keep your spectacles on. But in fact, the real attraction is that although the helmet is not sealed, air pressure keeps the water out - and your hair dry

Scared of water? Try this

FEAR of drowning has a on most exotic holiday activi-

ties — at least, that iss my experience. If you are the sort of person who pictures their pled plastic bags ready to balloon with gallons of salt water, snorkelling adventures tend not to be top of your must-do holiday list.

At Flatts Village in Bermuda, however, they operate a rather clever system called helmet diving, specially devised for neurotic weaklings and aquaphobes. It is adverused as the only underwater experience in which you can keep your specs on. But it is more than that.

Helmet diving is also one of the few underwater experiences in which you remain standing up and look very, very silly. It is inelegant, it looks ridiculous, and you don't see very much in the way of marine eco-diversity. But for certain unheroic types, standing ten feet underwater in a swimsuit breathing pumped air and keeping your hair dry feels like a giant step for recreational technology, if not for mankind.

The string of islands that composes Bermuda is arranged deliberately to have

Golden

maximum coastline for minimum land-mass, vet perhaps

blue Atlantic (and the wealthy resident population is temperamentally sedate), there is not so much mad plunging and diving into the fearful H2O as elsewhere in the jet-set yachty world. Helmet diving fits the ethos of Bermuda nicely. Like Bermuda itself, helmet diving is safe, sensible, friendly, civilised, clean. In short, it is for

> So, the boat chugs off from its base at Flatts Village on the north shore, and as it heads towards its regular mooring spot of colourless, shallow coral reef, our bronzed instructor (we'll call him Joe) explains about the big glassfronted brass helmets which are designed to sit loosely on your shoulders, their substantial weight stopping you from floating off the ocean floor. Joe also explains the simple phys-ics by which the air pumped into the helmets through tubes keeps water out, even though the helmet is not sealed.

Guilin and Hong Kong from £1650

Miraculously, if you have an itchy nose, you can reach

Lynne Truss puts on a glass helmet, a nasal strip and a brave face and braces herself to wander the seabed around Bermuda

inside and scratch it. "Really?" we all say. The small group of (mainly fat) American tourists look unconvinced by all this reassurance, as am I. Forget physics: what happens if you fall over? Water would get in then, wouldn't it? An American child in a pink swimsuit boring, unadventurous travel-lers like me.

to sleeping with them.

spends most of the breezy outward journey teaching me how to do a useful facial trick called "fish lips" — rather ominous in the circumstances. I don't want to kiss any fish. Especially, of course, if it leads To suppress panie I apply an attractive Breathe Right

nasal strip to my nose (the sort sportsmen wear), and inhale lots of fresh, salty, ozoney air through new enlarged nostrils. But I am definitely reserving the right to back out at the last minute. I am still not committed to taking the fearful plunge. "I'll probably need time to think about this," I warn the crew, as I edge my lumpen body feebly down a

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ladder into the water. "No problem," they say. There will be a light jump required when the rungs run out, they ex-plain; after which I will be standing on the seabed. A helmet is lifted on to my shoulders and lifted straight off again when I squeal "No!" and shake my head. Help, help, can't breathe, dying, help, help, "I've got a bigger helmet, try this," says the nice assistant and places another on my shoulders. I test it with a few breaths.

water laps the glass. I step right back up again, Down. Up. Down. Everyone is patient, though the people already immersed must be bored by now, with nothing to do except breathe, stand around and scratch their noses. Another woman

I EDGE down

another rung,

has simply refused to go down and I find that I love her very much. A holidaymaker more namby-pamby than me is a Later I learn that the so-called "bigger helmet" was nothing of the sort. It was in

cure. But it worked. Reassured by the roominess of the new helmet, I finally descend the ladder, jump off the bottom rung and land on the sand four feet below. And for the next gruelling 15 minutes, while Joe routinely demonstrates the feeding of coral (boring) and shuffles us into well-worn camera positions (also boring), I fight panic, suppress squeals and pray that someone else is paying the same attention to the effect of the incoming tide - which is in danger of lifting the boat's

ladder just beyond our reach. Is it a big thing or a little thing, this helmet dive? Well, obviously, it is really very small potatoes. For me, it is momentous to be underwater and still alive. But as for Joe a man snug in his designer wetsuit — it is quite clear that Joe leading eight people around a tiny area of seabed in shallow water is like Damon Hill driving a lot of lifelong pedestrians around a mini-

roundabout in a milk float. I smile at Joe apologetically through the glass and then stop when I realise the expression may be interpreted as "I'm about to be sick". Which is an alarming thought. I mean, what if you were sick in the helmet? With such happy

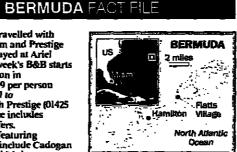
reality a cunning trick to make

Lynne Truss travelled with Bermuda Tourism and Prestige Holidays. She stayed at Ariel Sands, where a week's B&B starts at EL212 per person in October, and E899 per person from Navember 1 to December 12 with Prestige (01425 480400). The price includes flights and transfers.

Other operators featuring cottage holidays include Cadogan (01703 332551) and Mainstreet USA (0990 526900). British Airways (0345 222111) has three flights a week from Gatwick and has World Offers from E299 for October and December 12.

Flights are also available via New York with American Airlines (0181-572 5555) and Continental (0800 776464); via Boston with American and with Delta (0800 414767); via Atlanta with Delta; and via Toronto with Air Canada (0990

■ On Bermuda, helmet diving is offered by Bermuda Bell Diving (001 441 292 4434) and Greg Hartky's Under Sea



Adventure (44) 234 2861). The Adventure (44) 254 250). The former charges adults \$44 (£27.50) and children \$33 (£20.50); the latter charges \$48 (£30) and \$30 (£22.50). The whole experience takes three hours, including training and a dive lasting about half an hour. ■ Tips: The nervous should pack Breathe Right nasal strips.

Further information: Bermuda Tourism (0171-771 7001) has a guide on where to dive and other information. Reading: Insight Guide to Bermuda (£12.99). The same company also has a Pocket Guide to Bermuda (£5.95). Lonely Planet Travel Survival Kit: Bermuda (£8.99).

go helmet diving — which makes it sort-of unmissable. I cannot remember much about the coral, though I can still do "fish-lips", so it was not

> Joe had taught us some sign-language before descent, to indicate coral asleep, coral bit grey and dusty down there, and the main interest was Joe's efficiency in manoeuvring us into camera positions for the all-important video. My overall sensation remained one of hysterical selfamazement.

Helmet diving is a bewilderingly bonkers thing for an



thoughts, I finally regain the ladder and clamber back on

board. Only then do I realise I

should have tried to enjoy the

experience. Unfortunately, en-

joyment did not seem an

Travellers to Bermuda are

not obliged to helmet dive.

option at the time.

Take a Christmas and we'll cook the turkey.

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shopping at the old naval

dockyard; glass-bottom boat

trips; and incredibly expensive

meals outdoors on warm star-

lit nights, with Atlantic breezes playing in the palms. I

even saw an Alan Ayckbourn

farce, performed with surreal

inadequacy at one of the top

hotels. But Bermuda is one of

the few places where you can

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Gareth Huw Dav

Roma here



Islands of dreams: a jetty runs from one of the 1.000 Maldives islands out onto a coral reef. Only 70 of the islands house resorts and a tourism policy restricts development

Castaway among the coral

For Elizabeth Jane Howard, the Maldives brought to life childhood Maldives was from the aeroplane early in the morning More than 1,000 coral islands are strung vertically across the equator, west of Sri Lanka. in the Indian Ocean, and from above they appeared as dark marks rimmed with palest Of the more than 1,000 cream and encircled by a wide expanse of aquamarine water

set in an inky sea. As we descended, these colours became clearer, the centres composed of rich greens; the cream sand dazzled, and the aquamarine lagoons became translucent, a rim of lacv white delineating the reefs that separated the lagoons from the deep blue water. Here were the coral islands

that had so enlivened my childhood, looking, from the sky, exactly as I had imagined them when I had read all those books about being castaways and had so longed to be shipwrecked. Far from being wrecked, however, we were to visit two islands that contrive to make their visitors feel like nampered castaways.

Our first hotel was the Soneva Fushi on Kunfunadhoo, one of the larger islands well to the north of Male', the capital - reached by a 40-minute helicopter journey or three hours in a boat.

islands in the Maldives, only some 70 have resorts on them and most of these are otherwise uninhabited, for a wise tourism policy started in the early 1970s has limited hotel development to preserve the environment. So on Kunfunadhoo there is only Soneva Fushi, with its 42 villas; they consist of one large double bedroom and a wellappointed bathroom, the latter looking straight into a tiny garden. The villas are set back from the beach amid palms, frangipani and in our case a noble banyan tree.

We skipped lunch and got straight into the sea. The water was like warm silk and clear as glass, and richly inhabited by thousands of different fish, as brilliant as butterflies. Castaways gathered for meals in a

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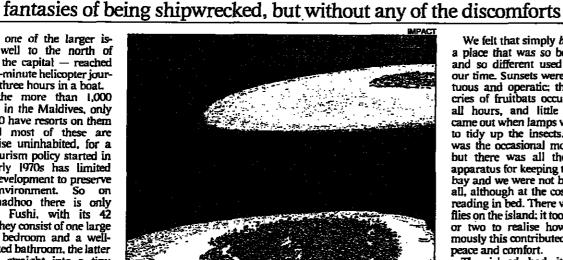
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From the air, the coral islands appear as lacy rims of white

large open dining room — it was also possible to eat outside. To reach it we walked along a sandy path still warm from the sun. The first evening there was a barbecue which turned out to be the most successful cooking we experienced at Soneva Fushi. Much

of the food was unremarkable, but everything had to be flown or shipped in - mostly from a distance. There was a bar near the dining room where you could drink or play chess or backgammon: you could also hire videos if you were mad enough to feel the need.

We felt that simply being in a place that was so beautiful and so different used up all our time. Sunsets were voluptuous and operatic; the juicy cries of fruitbats occurred at all hours, and little geckos came out when lamps were lit. to tidy up the insects. There was the occasional mosquito, but there was all the right apparatus for keeping them at bay and we were not bitten at all, although at the cost of no reading in bed. There were no flies on the island; it took a day or two to realise how enor-mously this contributed to our peace and comfort.

The island had its own desalination plant and there seemed to be no shortage of water, hot or cold. There was excellent massage available, both Swedish and shiatsu. There were excursions to other islands and all kinds of watersports. We went on one outing that offered excellent snorkelling, and were joined by a cheerful gang of stingrays the size of occasional tables.

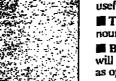
In the evenings, by the restaurant, black-and-white rabbits cavorted rather selfconsciously and toyed with pieces of bread or lettuce. We ere looked after — extremely by a host of small graceful men: Maldivian, Sri Lankan and Bangladeshi.

Our second week was on Vabbinfaru, a much smaller island about 20 minutes from Male by speedboat. Here was one of the Banyan Tree hotels and again the separate thatched huts containing a large bedroom and bathroom. These were set a few yards from the sea and had verandahs, with the rest of the house walled off so that everyone had a private garden.

This was a well-run hotel, and the food was much better than it had been in Soneva Fushi: although the ingredients were not very different, they were better prepared. Barbecues and breakfasts were on a par with those at Soneva Fushi, but lunch and dinner was infinitely more enjoyable. Mineral water was free - another bonus since we needed a great deal of it.

The days slipped by in a kind of timeless slow motion: often we felt that we had been on a coral island for ever sometimes we felt that we had hardly arrived. My daughter Nicola went diving every day but otherwise we made no plans, did not want excursions, were content to become familiar with the sea bed round the island.

One area was covered with sea cucumbers, creatures that look like gigantic fat caterpillars, but if you picked one up it was as light as if it had been made of papier-mache. Beyond them were the coral gardens where a cloud of humbug damsels fed — beautiful little fish with vertical blue and black stripes. Every evening at six, a gang of stingrays sped in to be fed by one of the gardeners. If you stood in the water they would nudge and bump you for food. When I was a child I had a notebook in which major experiences were recorded: "wore



puttees"; "rode an elephant" that kind of thing. "Bumped by stingrays" would have fit-

ted nicely into that. But what I shall remember most, what really makes me long to return to the Indian Ocean, is the memory of sitting on the verandah simply watching the vast amazing sky; livid with sunrise, bleached to creamy blues at midday, and then lightly furnished with clouds that were became molten as the sun fell with the speed of a bounced ball - beyond the horizon. beginning a darkness from which stars started out like diamonds. Every day these things happened, but never quite the same. We did not have time to get used to that spectrum of changing light: I shall have to return.

● Elizabeth Jane Howard travelled with Elegant Resorts (01244 S97888), which specialises in tailor-made olidays. Seven nights at the Banyan Tree costs from £1.505 per person, full board. Seven nights at Soneva Fushi costs fron £1.285 per person, B&B. including return flights from London via Dubai with Emirates, and inter-island

 Emirates (0171-808 0808) offers four flights a week to Male from Gatwick. Heathrow and

• Reading: Guide to E11.95); Maldives (Lonely



■ Who goes there? People who like sitting on/diving off sand pancakes in the middle of a warm ocean. Not for gourmands/culture buffs or budget travellers.

■ Getting the ball rolling: Call the Maldives High Commission (0171-224 2135 - but information takes 10 days to arrive).

■ Perfect timing: Peak season: mid December-early April. Christmas/August: pricey. Monsoon usually June/July, but has ■ Suitcase Strategy: Take: Book, film, sun/insect cream. Bring

back: Retail not a strong point except in Male, the capital. Anyway, shopping is stressful, and you are there to de-stress. ■ Pound in your pocket: £1 = 18.54 rufiyaa. Buy at airport on arrival. Keep receipt if you want to change money back as you leave. Sterling travellers' cheques welcome but US dollars more

useful. Prices generally high, but not outrageous. ■ Turn of phrase: Sri Lankan influence evident in unpronounceable names, such as Boduthakakurufaanu Magu.

Big no-nos: Bringing in alcohol, duty free or otherwise, which will be confiscated at customs. Arriving unannounced on local as opposed to resort - islands. Picking up coral/shells.

■ Nasty surprises: Bratwurst and tinned fruit salad (although standards are improving). Expensive/tricky inter-island travel.
Some islands are great for diving but hopeless for snorkelling and vice versa - choose carefully.

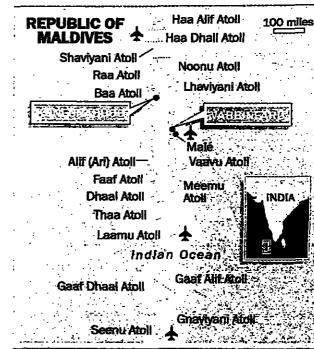
■ Not to be missed: Bodu Beru drummming-and-dancing nights. Fish barbecues in the sand. "Maldivian sofas" swinging chairs with room for two.

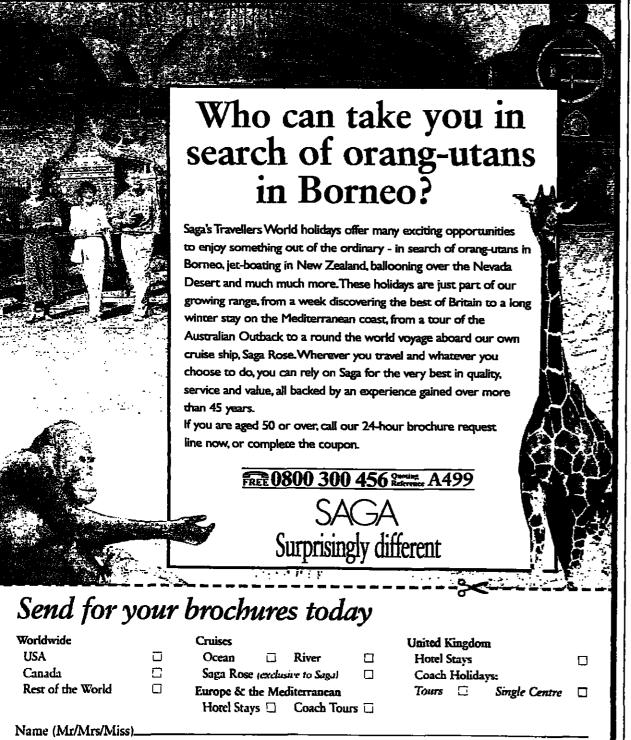
■ Way to go: Only charters fly direct. November scheduled return flights: Air Lanka (0171-930 4688) via Colombo, £521 (inc UK tax), Emirates (call DNATA Travel 0500 777310) via Dubai, £610 (inc UK tax).

Any good packages? November/December deals: Elegant Resorts (01244 897888) — 14 nights B&B at the ritzy new Kuda Huraa resort (with spa and dive school), £1765pp. Hayes & Jarvis (0181-222 7811) — seven nights half board on Meerufenfushi, E499pp. Maldive Travel (0171-352 22-46) — exclusive Nika island for £182 per room per night, plus £152 pp helicopter transfers. Also: Airtours (01706 232323), Cosmos (0161-480 5799), Kuoni (01306 734000), Thomson (0990 502399).

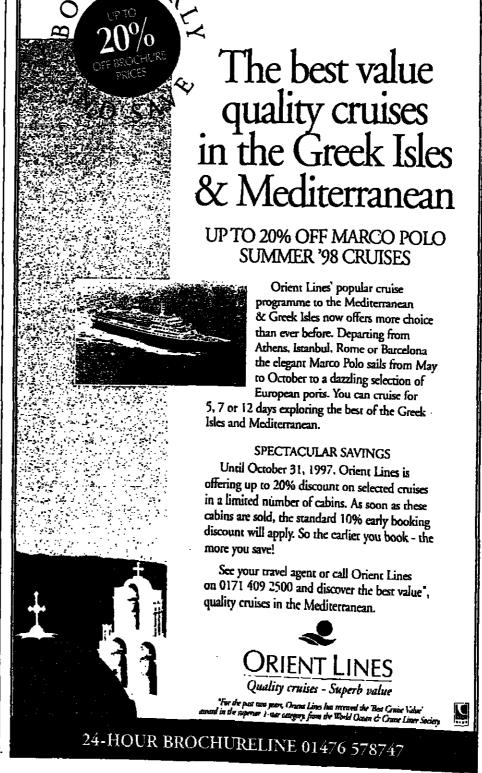
Dull but essential: No visa for stays of under 30 days. Departure tax \$10. No jabs required.

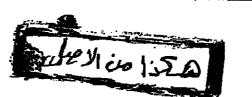
SOPHIE CAMPBELL





Date of Birth (Mrs/Miss) __/_/19_





FACT FILE

Gareth Huw Davies travelled with the French Tourist Board, 178 Piccadilly, London WIV

UAL (0891 244123, 50p a

casyJet (0990 292929) cost

(0345 222111) Heathrov ights cost from £161.

(0990 906090) and from

Where to stay: Several companies specialise in French gites and most have

when prices are lower than in high summer and the weather in southern France

example, a cottage with a private pool in the village of Rivières de Theyrargues, six miles from St Ambroix. costs £579 for a week, £47 for an additional week, from October 4 until January. It siecos six adult

the price includes

GITES DE FRANCE.

offered through Brittany

Ferries in the UK (0990 360360), has a gite at Cuxac

in southern Languedoc. A

sharing, including return

with Brittany Ferries from

at properties in Brittany. Normandy and the Loire Valley. Prices start at £43

per night per gite, based or a minimum of two nights'

stay, but irrespective of git

CHEZ NOUS TRAVEL 01484 682503) has a week

n Agde in a house sleeping six for £300; or a week in a

restored 800-year-old village

E320, in October. Ferry crossings start at £105 for a

car and live passengers

Reading: The South of France: Provence, Côte

dogan series (£14.99)

d'Azur and Languedos

Côte d'Azur, from the

Independent Travellers series (Moorland, £8.99)

1986 Hubbard

through a surge

cycle, advancing

Glacier went

Roussillon, from the

house in Roquebrum.

mme from October programme trom October until May: weekend breaks

week costs £48.38 per

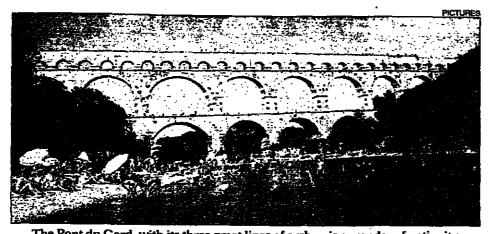
Portsmouth to Caen.

Gite d'Interlude

can still be good VFB HOLIDAYS (01242

Gareth Huw Davies steps back 2,000 years on a drive through Languedoc Roussillon, southern France

But the Romans got here first



The Pont du Gard, with its three great lines of arches, is a wonder of antiquity

We followed the bends for half

a day down the Tarn Gorges.

then cut across Robert Louis

Stevenson's donkey route in

the Cevennes, the southern

margin of wild, elevated cen-

tral France, and popped out on the other side at St Ambroix

into the undeniable south.

After 250 miles of wine-free

France, we saw our first

de Rodières, some 25 miles

north of Avignon From our eyrie perch we looked over

grand cru vinevards across to

the Rhône valley and the

mistral-scourged Mt Ventoux.

within eyeshot of the Alps.

power station simmering on

the edge of the Rhone. Our

hostess made a virtue of it.

indicating the wind direction

by the slant of its vapours.

"It's our barometer," she said,

In ideal conditions, we were

vineyard since the Loire. Our gite was at St Christol

road into Languedoe Roussillon over an elbow of the Massif Central. If there must be new roads through sensational countryside, then let them soar and swoop as excitingly as this one. We were as high as Snowdon. My children, Laura, 15, and 13year-old Tim, the back seat navigators, rattled off regular roadside altitude checks.

Too late we spotted the aire - that ubiquitous roadside leg-stretching site — where we should have stopped, for each parking spot was shaded by a towering new stone megalith. erected by the local authorities in imitation of a nearby neo-

And all the while, on a more horizontal keel, the singletrack railway north to Clermont-Ferrand shadowed us. We knew where it was heading, but imagine being an line and, ten miles north, suddenly tightroping over the Truyère at Garabit on Eiffel's wondrous iron viaduct.

The French region is a huge thing. Languedoc Roussillon starts here, below the Auvergne, channels straight down central southern France, then yeers to the west in a wide band rather like an inverted comma to the Spanish border. It ends up as the most southertakes in half of the French Mediterranean coast.

Languedoc Roussillon may lack the instant product identification in the British mind of, say, Provence, directly to the east. But it comes fully-fitted with the same seductive sensory effects of the Midi cicadas in surround-sound as you drive, nightingales on the fringe of country campsites and the potent perfume of southern flora.

later they straggled back, replete from whatever nutritious cache they had been visiting down in the valley.

We were within striking

distance of what must be the widest range of cultural achievement in the western world, perhaps anywhere. To the south, the many points of inspiration for the impressionists and cubists. Twenty miles to the north, newly discovered marvels you will never see in the original.

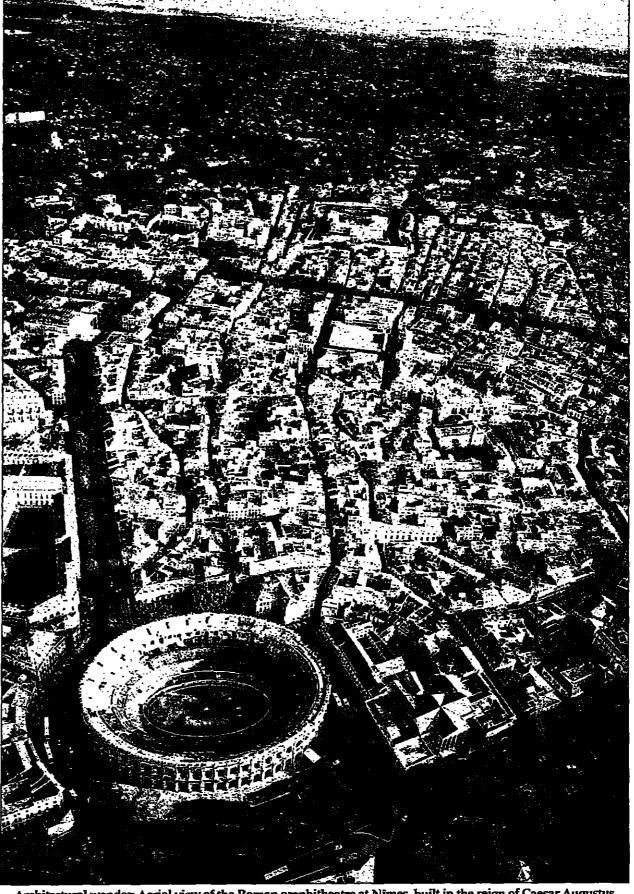
Jean-Marie Chauvet and

two colleagues discovered some new caves near Vallon Pont d'Arc on December 18, 1994. Their torches picked out walls decorated with a 20,000year-old gallery of beasts, among the oldest on earth. It was instantly obvious that visitors must never be admitted after the disaster of Lascaux, where human breath destroyed the very wonders human eyes beheld.

Even now Chauvet and his team are working on an exact replica of the caves, a virtual reality solution. In the meantime, they rushed out an impressive exhibition in Vallon town, with video footage and recreated cave walls.

ven in facsimile the animal paintings are particular, astonline of lions, head alongside head, are spring-loaded for action. like Olympic sprinters poised on the blocks. Orange, just east of the

Rhône in western Provence. has the best preserved theatre Our hilltop was an important marker on a regular fly-past. By the poolside one in the whole of the Roman world. Pont du Gard, with its afternoon I spotted, directly overhead, a flight of half a three great lines of arches, is a wonder of antiquity. You can dozen bee eaters, floppy fliers in jazzy harlequin livery, bindfollow the course of the water in surviving off-cuts of chaning themselves together with a nel to Uzės, - splendid Satur-



Architectural wonder: Aerial view of the Roman amphitheatre at Nimes, built in the reign of Caesar Augustus

west. And on to elegant Words cannot adequately Nimes. "Nimes: La Rome Français" is still a standard tourist text on the bookstands. But we found a city recasting its received persona. Not only did the whole world think of Nimes as exclusively Roman. so did the tourism college from which our guide graduated recently. Now the image is being updated and Nimes is promoted thus: "2,000 years of Latin culture", and even "Nimes, French Madrid", for

its férias and bullfighting. You still need a copy of I Claudius by Robert Graves to fix the opening acts — the amphitheatre, the finest of its sort, built in Augustus's reign; the Maison Carree, best preserved Roman temple, dedicated to his sons Caius and Lucius, murdered by the sa-

tanic Livia.

day market - 15 miles to the

To mark the Middle Ages link, our guide unlocked a succession of massive wooden doors leading into the courtyards of hotels particuliers merchants' mansions. Behind these doors Protestant grandees hid their ostentation. Today these beautifully composed set pieces in stone - all the classical architectural flourishes under a winding staircase — are cool havens from the heat of the street outside, with their tinkling fountains and torrents of greenery tumbling off the parapets.

The treat for the family. after so much culture, was a meal out on the last evening. We tested and disproved yet again the theory that you cannot eat out in France for less than a fortune: on the contrary, the strength of the pound leads to some good deals. The opinion from the back of the car was that we try Le Mas de Trescouvieux, just east of Laval St Roman, as a reward for planting so many insistent signposts among the vines. It was a farmhouse kitchen

with outdoor seats and any wine you liked so long as it was red and came in an unmarked bottle from the patron's own cave. Four courses cost us £63 for five. A day later, we were head-

ing home on the Aignon to Calais motorail. Rattling along the banks of the Rhône. we passed the same power station we had seen from our gite, gently simmering. Somewhere up there, among that dense greenery, our hostess was glancing down to take tomorrow's weather forecast.

Discover the Great Land of

Join us aboard the SS

A VOYAGE ALONG THE ALASKAN COASTLINE THE ITINERARY noon and drive to the Georgian Court Hotel or similar for an overnight

Universe Explorer is unlike most of the vessels which cruise the Alaskan waters. The emphasis on board is on education rather than entertainment. Travelling with you will be a number of expens on the area who will provide talks and briefings on Alaska's history, culture, geology, natural history and botany and in addition passengers have the benefit of a vast library, some 15,000 volumes on every subject imaginable.

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lectures, classical concerts and after dinner dance music and the atmosphere on board is entirely at ease. Dress is casual and there are no black tie events.

resulting in a well run and happy ship.



by as much a 130 feer a day. Eventually an ice dam formed and burst with enormous power. Today we will cruise past this awe inspiring site and enjoy time cruising in the sheltered waters looking out for sea lions. Day 12 Sitka. Once the

capital of Tsarist Russia in the New World, Sitka was the site of the historic transfer of Alaska to the United States. Day 13 Ketchikan. Alaska's first city and the salmon capital of the world. Clinging to the side of Deer Mountain, Ketchikan is a colourful port of call.

Day 14 At sea. Day 15 Victoria. Situated on Vancouver Island, Victoria is a delightful city well known for its British atmosphere. One of the finest botanical gardens in the world Day 16 Vancouver to London

(Heathrow). Disembark after breakfast and transfer to Geomian Court Hotel or similar where day use rooms have been reserved. Remainder of day at leisure until transfer to the airport in time for the late evening British Airways to London.

Day 17 London (Heathrow). Arrive in the

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Day 2 Vancouver. Morning city excursion. In the afternoon embark SS Universe Explorer and sail. Day 3 At sea. Cruising British Columbia's beautiful Inside Passage. Day 4 Wrangell. Once

ruled by Britain and Russia, Wrangell is one of the oldest and most historical towns in Alaska. Day 5 Juneau. The capital of Alaska is accessible only by sea or air. Walk the winding streets, shop, visit the excellent

State Museum and Governor's Mansion. Day 6 Skagway, Navigate the Lynn Canal viewing mountain ranges, hanging glaciers and wildlife. In Skagway enjoy the 1890's Gold Rush spirit. Day 7 Glacier Bay. This morning we will sail into Glacier Bay, a summer haunt of the humpback whales. Cruise along the West Arm close to tiny islands where puffins and guillemots congregate, and passing chills where kirnwakes roost. Day 8 Cruising the Gulf of Alaska. The scenery is dramatic and awe inspiring. Day 9 Seward. This ice free port is situated on the Kenoi Feninsula, The area is immensely neh in wildlife and

670,000 acres, where some of the world's largest tide-water glaciers can be Day 10 Valdez. After a morning crusing call into the port of Valdez, a lovely spot where snow-capped peaks form a wonderful backdrop to green meadows Day 11 Cruising the Yakutat Bay. In

the nearby national park is a vast area of

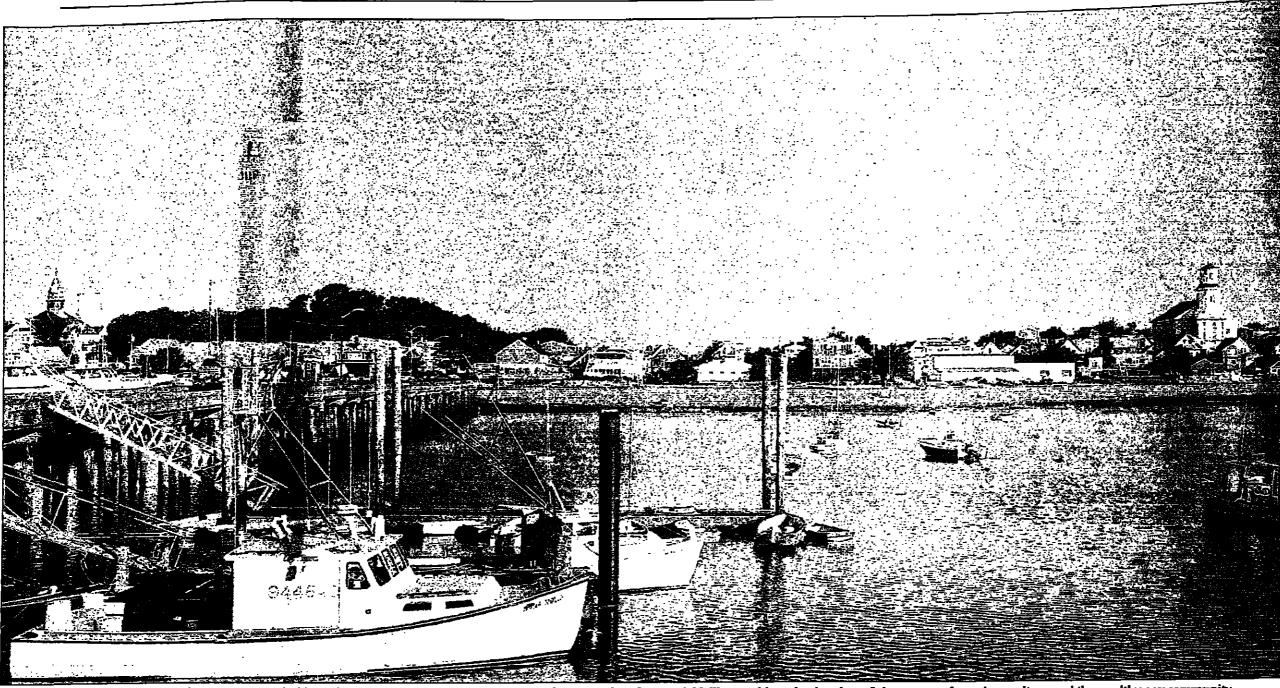
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HOBLE (ALEDONIA LIMITED)

Peter Stothard on leopardskin loincloths and other theatrical memorabilia at the tip of Cape Cod



Provincetown, at the tip of America's most fashionable Cape, has been a tourist resort since the 1920s when Eugene O'Neill wrote his early plays here. It is a magnet for artists, writers, and the wealthy gay community

Long day's journey into the bay

his good days and his bad days while he was making his name as the father of American theatre in Provincetown. Cape Cod. Even on a good day, when his work was going well and he was partying naked except for a leopardskin loincloth and an orange wig.

inquisitive journalists and consign his long-suffering wife to the gutter. On a bad day his alcoholic rages were not even fit to be research work for Long Day's Journey Into Night, the posthumous masterpiece on which his reputation rests. He would sit on the sand-dunes, urinating into

half-full prohibition-priced whisky bottles and drinking the contents as cocktails.

Provincetowners today, like most people with famous sons, prefer to remember the best parts of the good days. Since the 1920s they have created a prosperous tourist resort at the tip of America's most fashionable Cape and made it a magnet for artists, writers, the wealthy local gay communi-ties as well as for Europeans seeking the place where New World drama first threw off the chains of the old. If O'Neill were to return

today to the little town where he wrote his early plays, he would find men in loincloths night of the week. He might note with disquiet that men and women in gay-pride Tshirts have taken many of the places left by his 1920s team of wife-swappers, bootleggers and macho-bohemians. But the playwright would still find his works being performed here, in the same sort of grey clapboard wharf-buildings, before small but no-less-appreciative crowds.

The only trouble for the local hero would come if he were to try to replay some of his bad times. Provincetown today is a place where those who prize self-expression also know how to behave. Raised voices are very much not the thing. Etiquette is a street art. Manicured gardening - no more than seven convolvulus blooms per drainpipe -- is the grandest of arts. Dogs have to be lurchers or pugs and wear at least a thousand dollars

worth of ethnic jewellery. Watercolour is the painter's medium of choice. When seven people eating a \$250 dinner order a fourth bottle of wine it is time for the manager to sound a none-too-subtle claxon. Even running in the

price to Boston from £199 plus

1-31. Prices then drop to £179

until December 12. To obtain

these prices, tickets must be

purchased by October 1. It is a two and a half hour drive from Boston to

Prices start at \$142 (£90)

■ Virgin Holidays (01293

Provincetown, or you can fly with Cape Air (001 508 771 6944).

return for a seven-day advance

617181) has fly-drive holidays to

New England from £439 per

person (£399 after October 15). including flights and car hire. Taxes and insurance add betwe £21-£25 a day.

Osprey Holidays (0131-557 1555) has fly-drive holidays to Boston in October from £465

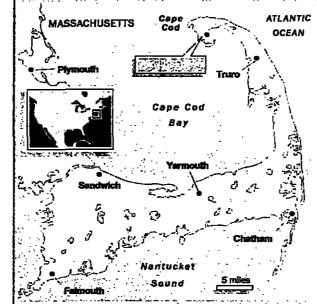
per person. The company will feature Provincetown in its

Where to stay: New

1998 brochure, to be published in

England Country Homes (01798 869020) has properties close to

laxes, for travel between October



streets seems somehow frowned upon — unless it is athletic running, ideally by groups in neatly-matched turquoise boxer shorts.

The theatre where O'Neill's plays were performed has long been lost to the waves of Provincetown bay. The Provincetown Players were nothing if not a fissiparous and itinerant crowd: the idea of any permanent memorial would have seemed to them absurd. But the sense of theatre remains strong.

he centre of the town is built of short wharfs which jut out into the sea. Some have collapsed for ever, while others have been converted into accommodation for visitors. The scenery for the players was kept not above the stage (too precarious) or at the side (no room) but under the boards of the piers themselves, barely scraping the water surface at high tide. The



Provincetown: artists' mecca

performance areas were cramped and intimate — just like the jumbles of rooms that are now so much sought after for let. In August the "No Vacancy" signs along Commercial Street and Bradford (the two thoroughfares that mark out the town) are even more prevalent than the plovers and sanderlings that play

along the beaches.
Visitors to Provincetown who are searching for a more serious slice of American history may be disappointed. A hotel parking-lot on the edge

sandbar and they did not stay long before leaving for their first settlement at Plymouth

across the bay. Modern tourists, therefore, who want to recreate the lives of the Puritan settlers, eat olde worlde food and talk to actors in 17th century English can do so further down the Cape at the popular Plimoth Plantation, where they will find a mass of educational attractions, combining obsessive period detail with compulsory political correctness about native Americans.

In Provincetown there is a Mayflower Memorial, modelled earlier this century on a tower in Siena, but, in every other respect, players are preferred to Puritans. This is a self-consciously artistic community - even when its population rises from 5.000 to 50,000 in the summer. The main bookstore, which feminist pilgrims claim may once have been the home of Sylvia Plath, contains shelves of literary first editions where normally there might be horoscopes and greeting

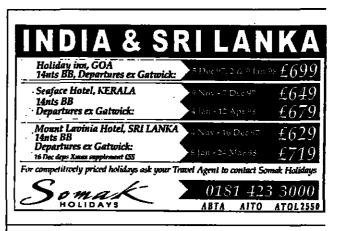
cards. The gossip is of Norman Mailer and Susan Sontag. The restaurants have to be as competitive in their saladarangements as any in Manhattan. Holidaying New York painters come here — and can be just the slightest bit patronising about the local artists who sell sea-and-clapboard watercolours around the east end galleries. Even the chambermaid in your wharf is likely to be working on a reportorial novel: From Dust To Dust. Observations from the Bed-Changing Business.

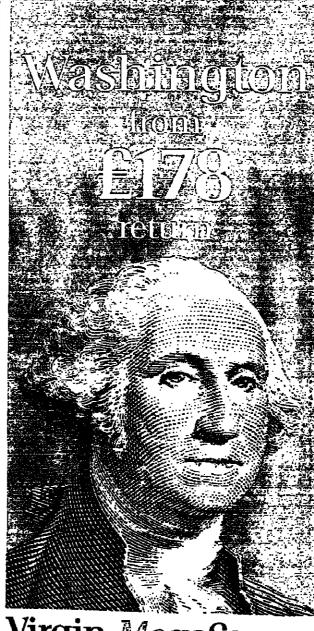
There is still, however, a lively strain of old Englishness on this end zone of Cape Cod.

Pilgrim Fathers first landed the Mayflower in America.
What they found was a barren candbea and the lizard: there are towns called Truro and Falmouth.

It looks a little like Cornwall and there is some of that Cornish sense of separateness and individuality. The life and the buildings are more precarious than in the west of England. There is no place with the solid charm of Fowey, no rock like St Michael's Mount. But the beaches and the bristling dunes of pine are vast by comparison and criss-crossed by miles of bicycle tracks.

At the lowest of low tides almost the whole of Provincetown Bay is empty of sea and there are acres of sand and starfish stretching over to the lighthouse point, a place for expensive dogs to play base ball and their owners to build their bodies, dream of their future theatrical triumphs, or at least decide on their next





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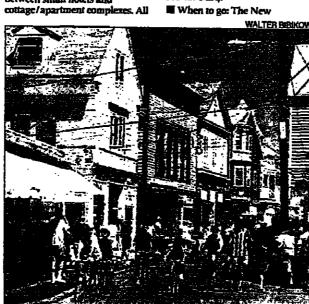


WARMED BY MORE THAN THE SUN Cayman Islands Department of Tourism 6 Arlington Street, London SW1A IRE Telephone: 0171-491 7771 - Fax: 0171-409 7773

PROVINCETOWN FACT FILE Getting there: It is easiest to Provincetown. For example. travel to Provincetown via Boston. Virgin Atlantic (01293 747747) has special fares to Boston from £198, plus £35 taxes, for in Truro, eight miles away, a cottage for four for two weeks until October 25 costs £1,176 per person. including flights, car hire, insurance and a night travel by December 12 (if booked by October I). British Airways (0345 222111) has a World Offer

Accommodation in Provincetown is divided between small hotels and are small, and parking nearby may be difficult, so check when booking. It is advisable to book well in advance for next summer. A list of accommodation is available from

Commerce (Box 1017), Provincetown, MA 02657 (00) 508 487 3424).



Provincetown is built on wharfs which jut into the sea

England Fall, when the leaves turn and the region is ablaze with gold and russet colours, starts around now and peaks over the next two or three weeks. further north you go.

Further information: The older houses were floated to their current siles from the outer sandbank in the 19th century. Look for blue-wave plaques. Provincetown Repertory Theatre (001 508 487 0600). Provincetown Art Association (001 508 487 1750).

guide and other information in Provincetown Guide from Shank Painter publishing, 650 Commercial St. Provincetown, MA 02657 (00) 508 487 9169). Long Day's Journey Into Night, by Eugene O'Neill (Nick Hern Books, £6,99).

Reading: Architectural

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When the Boeing gets tough

Never mind trainspotting. planespotting is best, says

Oliver Bennett

Boeing 747 taxies out to the runway. It is a routine occurrence to most of us, at best bearing a mere trisson of fear, excitement and expectation.

But to the small crowd of eropiane spotters who keep a vigil at the Skyview platform above Gatwick Airport's South Terminal, it is a moment of high arousal. Up leaps this fraternity of flying fanatics to their feet with their oneway radios, binoculars and cameras swinging. They rush to the balcony where they look. listen, jot notes. The plane takes off in a whoosh of kerosene, and the sponers visibly relax until the next major departure or arrival Planespotting is an increas

ingly popular pastime. On the weekday morning when I visited Skyview, there were 30 or more spotters, and many more arrive at weekends.

We all know about trainspotting - the very term has become a meraphor for any pastime that requires obsessive scrutiny and attention to detail, be it record-collecting or drug abuse. Unlairly perhaps. it invites trendy sorm. But the spotting of aeroplanes - sure-ly that is a different matter: more global and glamorous. like whale-watching as opposed to bird-watching?

Aficionados do not think so: they tend to spot both trains and planes and see no hierarchical difference between the two. And they are sensitive to crincism: several spotters I approached at Skyview refused to talk, possibly suspecting that fun was going to be poked at them. Perish the thought.

Skyview has a cafe, a bookshop, a few Internet ter minals, an historic aircraft exhibit, a flight simulator and a little cinema. This package costs £4.50 for adults, but planespotters can get roof access without the trimmings for just £1.50, and they tend to stay all day. So what drives these monomaniacs? On a breezy, bright autumn day at Skyview, I met

There is

beauty in

seeing big

airplanes

land and

take off.

Every

plane has

its own

character

Roger Wright, a market researcher from Ealing, west London, who cited childhood experience as a key factor. "I grew up in Cambridge the planes from Marshall's airport flying over my house, he says, "and I've been fascinated ever since." But Mr Wright does not stop at planes: he is fond

of "all transport systems", particularly light aircraft and steam trains. Every plane has its own character," he insists.

They are like people in that respect." Yes, as far as spotters are concerned, planes are

Planespotters often have a radio, with which they can listen to air traffic control, usually through an earpiece. You can hear everything



Wright. "I've picked up one or two pilots lost in bad weather, but they seem to get here eventually." It is entirely legal, he informs me, as it is only one-way and does not interfere with signals. "Lucky" spotters can hear emergencies happen in real-time, though these are mercifully few. An

> needs binoculars or telescope, a notecially - one of the haustive list of airliner stocks published by y ine Hobby Aviation Shop. For it seems that planespotting is driven less by the need to celebrate the awesome power and aesthetic of aeronautic technology, and more by a

clerical mission to

log aeroplanes.

earnest spotter also

There is a beauty in seeing big airplanes land and take off," says Mr Wright. "I could watch them land all day, and there is a certain aesthetic appeal in the colour schemes and design." But to him, planesporting is more "a question of observing the insignia to find out who owns what, recording the type of

Any unusual carrier has a planespotter reaching for his binoculars. This particular morning. Mr Wright had spied Royal Nepal Airlines, odd little airlines from Kazakhstan and Turkey. and a couple of new charters. British Airways' new livery was also exciting a gang of spotters. "We like older planes. as you won't see them much longer," says Mr Wright, "To see a Boeing 707 at Heathrow

airport, has unexpected treasures such as charters carrying footballers and orchestras: to identify these, the grapevine goes into action so spotters know what is happening when planes appear off-timetable. And new products get them going. The Boeing 777 is now boringly established, and the spotters are more excited by the Airbus 340, one of the

potters also seem to spend their days off in pursuit of planes. Wright, who claims to be able to identify helicopters by sound, lives near Heathrow and picks up on air traffic control from home. Indeed, the Wright family are looking for a new house. "When I view a property, I ask is there any aircraft traffic coming over?"



Radios, cameras and binoculars are essential kit

says Wright. The estate agents play it down. I don't tell them that I prefer it if there are planes overhead." Much of planespotting's ap-

peal is down to the completist drive of the collector. "The idea is to see all the planes in a particular fleet," attests Stan Fletcher, a retired railwayman from Maidenhead, who had come to Skyview for the day with two friends. "In fact, the ultimate object is to see every passenger aircraft built, and as you can never quite complete this task, you will always he thwarted." It is precisely

says Mr Fletcher, who adds that they are also kept on their toes by the increasing inventiveness of the aviation industry, which is constantly developing new types of

The John Menzies shop at Skyview is dedicated to planespotters' needs, with model kits, viewing and listening equipment, as well as videos like the Flight in Cockpit series, which gives the viewer a pilot's eye view, and a similarly aviation-obsessed bookshelf. This includes slightly macabre titles such as

Flight Deck - books hardly likely to be found in the shops down in the terminal. These do not sell quite as

well as the books of lists such as Commercial Aircraft and Jane's Airport Recognition Guide, but the market seems to be thriving. Money is no object for some of these people," says manager Simon Hussey, who says the shop is constantly "chock-a-block" with spotters who often spend over £30 on a book.

baffled at the zealousness with which planespotters perform what looks awfully like unpaid catalogue work. "I said to one, what do you do with the numbers?" he recalls. "What pleasure do you get out of it?" No satisfying answer came. But planespotting is a hobby that aspires to be a profession tellingly, Fletcher refers to

leagues" -- and many planespotters either work aviation or the railways.

There is an addictive quality to it, which Mr Fletcher's friend Chris Church, a personnel manager from Maiden-head, is quick to acknowledge. "It's my fix," he says. "The people at work take the mickey out of me something rotten. But I find it relaxing, something to do." And it should be said that there is something meditative and fraternal about planespotting, despite a small internecine rivalry between telescope and binocular users, of which Mr Church and Mr Fletcher are illustrations. "I prefer telescopes," says Mr Church, standing at the balco-ny like a pastiche Admiral Nelson surveying his frigates. Mr Fletcher, a binocular-man: "Can't get on with them." Most spotters are men, but

ince, for it was he that held all the looking, listening and recording kit. "It bit me as a kid," says the retired print worker. I was in the RAF and becomes a habit, but it winds you down. It's good for stress." And lo, then comes the unmistakeable noise of an approaching jet and there is no time to journey further into

Sylvia Fullylove had travelled

down from Wattord, where

they are fortunate enough to

live beneath the West Drayton

Holding Pattern. Was Sylvia

there under duress? "It's a day

out, and I like aeroplanes," she

pleads. But planespotting is clearly Mr Fullylove's prov-

the planespotting soul. A new Canadian charter plane has been spotted, and the denizens of Skyview leap to their feet. lenses trained into the haze.

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Wreckchasing, Black Box, Crashes and Crash Sites and that sense of having an infinite task that drives the spotters, PLANESPOTTERS' FACT FILE Skyview spectators gallery in the South Terminal overlooks the coffee shop has Internel Herald commercial aircraft is open as an Day in the Life of the Airport and there is an aircraft simulation ride (separate price: Oliver Bennett goes skywatching E2). Gallery admission: EL50 adults, children 75p. All facilities, including simulator, E4.50, E3 children. A family ticket (two adults, two children) costs £10. Open daily from 9am-5pm ■ Heathrow: The spectators gallery is on top of Terminal 2 — no lift, 70 stairs. One raised area overlooks an aircraft parking cul de sac but for Heathrow's 50th anniversary last year, another platform was opened with "a really cracking view," said a spokeswoman. Facilities are a small cafe — The Take-Off — and an aviation hobby shop. called Mach 3, open for three years and selling "everything you need". At weekends, during school holidays and for 'special aircraft days', over 1,000 people a day can visit. An average is 300 daily. Admission free: generally open daily from dawn to dusk.

The separate Visitor's Centre on Bath Road, which is also free, has a riewing area for take-offs and landings. Open daily. Manchester: Due to development work, the viewing terrace has been closed indefinitely. The Aviation Viewing Park is still open, an area near the runway, off the M56 (junction 6) designated for watching take-offs and landings. Admission: £1.50 for car and driver (50p additional passenger) - £2.50 at weekends. Cafe, toilets and ■ Luton: A large spectator area with its own bar, serving meals, plus a separate snack shop. Open from 9am to Hpm daily, the gallery even has its own dedicated car park (£1), pool tables, darts and Sky TV. There is also another branch of Mach 3, the Heathrow aviation hobby shop. Admission free. ■ Edinburgh: The spectators gallery is closed due to redevelopment of the terminal. Is due to re-open "at some stage" — possibly within a

> Reading: Mach 3 (0181-897 2747) publishes World Airline Registrations (C7.95), available from its Heathrow viewing shop. The Aviation Hobby Shop (01895 442123) publishes Airlines (E8.95).

And you wouldn't want to miss the boat.

Living in the past with a house of spirits

Francis Gilbert picks up a new guide to London's lesser-known museums and finds some of the most

atmospheric houses

DENNIS SEVERS HOUSE

I discovered Dennis Severs House one Sunday in midsummer. I tramped off the cobbled street, the trains from Liverpool Street Station rattling in the distance, and found myself tiptoeing into a mystical, cool domain.

A servant girl can be heard working upstairs, someone on horseback clip-clops nearby, the delicious aroma of roast lamb and mint sauce wafts from the kitchen downstairs, and the wispy smoke from tallow candles lures you into the front room. As you stare in astonish-

ment at the rock sugar candy. Severs creeps up and explains the overturned clay pipe, over-flowing fruit bowl and pow-dered wig on the varnished table: "You are now in the home of the Jervises, a family of master silk weavers of Huguenot descent. Can you feel their spirits?"

It is the beginning of an astonishing tour of a Georgian household. You are taken down to the dimly-lit kitchen where Severs tells you of the ambitious Mrs Jervis, who desperately wants her daughter to marry well.

Upstairs, one of the rooms is a perfect recreation of one painting from Hogarth's The Rake's Progress, with its overturned chairs, long clay pipes, empty punch bowl and drained glasses of wine on the table. A reproduction of the



An elaborate door knocker

painting hangs over the mantelpiece, mirroring the room. My favourite space is the top floor. Whereas the rest of the house is opulent, here the rooms are poverty-stricken cobwebs, sagging walls, chairs caked in wax.

Severs explains that it is where the servants used to live, condemned to weave the silk garments through the day and night in sweat-shop conditions for their masters down below. The Huguenots employed slave labour to fund their lavish lifestyle.

"You are like Scrooge when you travel through this house: spirits visit you and often you will undergo some kind of rebirth," said Severs.



Dennis Severs has lived in Georgian style for 17 years. "You are now in the home of the Jervises, a family of master silk weavers of Huguenot descent. Can you feel their spirits?" If you are looking for authen-ticity, you will not find it at

black and white movies, sepia

photographs, Victorian litera-

ture, and his own unique

reading of East End history

Practically nothing in the house is antique -- but the life Dennis Severs House. He has he lives there is genuine - the created a past culled from urine in the chamber pots is not left there for effect.

Severs, an American, has lived here for 17 years. "It's my passion," he said. "I grew up

Christmas time.

to escape the brutalist architec-

ture and cacophony of the Kingsland Road in East

London, stumbles upon a hid-

den Eden. A bewigged statue of an imposing nobleman, his

shoulders garlanded with

snow, gazes on a large, peace-

ful garden with wrought iron

gates. I am thrust back into the

Robert Geffrye, twice created Master of the Worshipful

Company of Ironmongers,

and a Lord Mayor of London.

is ensconced in a niche which

weary traveller, grateful

in California, where everyone buys happiness. But this is modern art - it's almost

Street, Spitalfields, London El (0171-247 4013). Open on the first Sunday and Monday of each

THE GEFFRYE MUSEUM

month. Sunday 2pm-5pm (E7); Monday after dark for the Silent Night tour (£10), booking essen-tial. Tube: Liverpool Street.

in Little-Known Museums In and Around London, by Rachel Kaplan, published on Monday by

the staff's favourite. It is

elegant, airy and spacious, beautifully decorated with blue and white stencilled wall-

paper, white marble fireplace,

carved beech and satin wood

harp, a zebra-wood brass-

inlaid card table and ornate

silver tea set. Schoolchildren

love the Victorian room, with

its knick-knacks, brightly col-

oured curtains, Davenport

writing desk, glass-domed

shell ornaments, sewing box

Christine Lalumia, the mu-

seum's deputy director, says

that a number of older visitors

become emotional about the

1930-40 room. The Blitz is

poignantly evoked with crack-

ling wartime songs on the

Bakelite radio. A game of

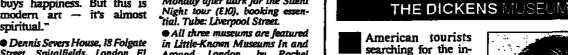
"Sorry" is spread out in front

of chunky upholstered chairs.

A biscuit tin is about the only

luxury you will find here.

and elaborate flowers.





ens memorabilia. Dickens moved into this fine Regency home at 48 Doughty Street in April 1837, aged 25. He had just married and was establishing himself as a writer. He finished Pickwick Papers. and wrote Nicholas Nickleby and Oliver Twist in the house. Documenting these early years was not easy because most of the original material from Dickens's life comes from when he was much older, but the muse-

um has succeeded. This museum is worth several visits. Recently I found myself reading the handwritten manuscript for Nicholas Nickleby, and a letter written by Mary Hoearth, his sister-in-law, who died at the age of 17 — a death which greatly affected Dickens. The great man's quill pen, his reading glass. his desk, and the ghastly grille from Marshalsea prison where his father was imprisoned for debt are all in the house.

Due to a lack of resources only the dining room truly resembles the house as it



ens's time. But with its rosewood furniture and large table, it is peculiarly ordinary -- a reminder that Dickens hankered after middle-class respectability.

Most visitors are entranced with R.W. Buss's painting Dickens's Dream. where many characters his novels are

The Deputy Curator's favourite exhibits are two recently acquired portraits of young Charles and his wife by Samuel Laurence which seem to bring his vital presence into

 Dickens House Museum, 48 Doughty Street; London WCIN (0171-405 2127). Open Monday to Saturday Square, Farrinedon or Holborn. Best times to visit: weekday mornings. Admission £3.5() adults, £2.50 students, £1.50 children.



The Regency Room at the Geffrye Museum has a zebra-wood inlaid card table

is part of the 14 terraced almhouses and a chapel which he built in 1715. The austere, beautiful buildings served as retirement homes for pen-

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18th century

sioners and widows for almost 200 years until the early 20th century, when the Arts and Crafts Movement saved them from demolition and set up the Geffrye Museum in 1914. There is something very

welcoming about the Geffrye. Admission is free and the

attendants are relaxed and friendly. In summer you can sit in the herb garden, and you can relax in the café or reading room all year round. It is the only museum in

Britain to specialise in the history of domestic interiors, displaying a collection of English furniture and decorative arts in a series of period rooms from 1600 to 1950. That winter's afternoon I was lured into a magical evocation of Christmas Past; the rooms sparkled with festive decoration. As I immersed myself in the customs, rituals and adornments once common in English homes, 400 years of Christmas traditions came to life.

Elizabethan drawing room, all heavy oak and rough woollen textiles; a creepy rocking cradle with an eye carved on its hood to ward off evil spirits suggests visions of a malign and gothic world. The Stuart Period room contains the most valuable item in the museum: an extraordinary ebony cabinet inlaid with exotic woods and ivory. The Queen Anne room shows an increasing desire for luxury and Eastern motifs with furniture ja-

panned to imitate oriental

acquer. The Regency room is

The first port of call is an

● Geffrye Museum, Kingsland Road, London E2 (0171-739 9893). Open Tuesday to Saturday Юат-Ѕрт; Sundays and Bank Holidays 2pm-5pm Underground: Liverpool Street Station, then Bus 22A, 22B or

149 from Bishopsgate. Best times to visit: weekday afternoons. Worst times: weekday mornings (when school parties are visiting) and Sunday afternoon.

WORD-WATCHING

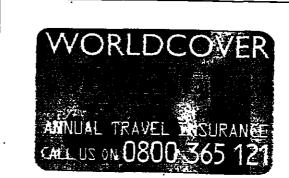
Answers from page 30

(c) Loki was the bad boy of the Norse Gods. He saved them from paying the builder of the wall around Asgard. He turned himself into a mare and so excited the builder's horse, Svadilfare, that the work was not completed on time.

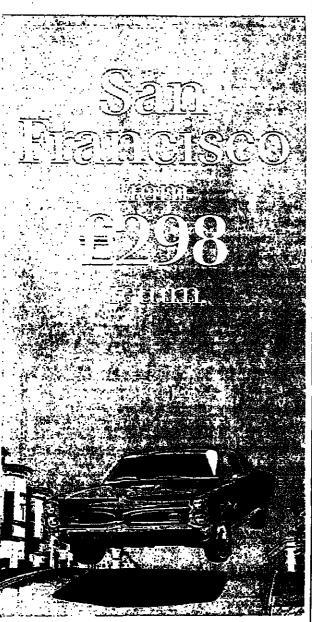
(c) The recovery from recoil. In automatic weapons such as the Bofors, this was used to actuate the mechanism of loading and firing the next round.
CONIC SECTIONS

(a) Conic sections are the figures obtained by plane sections of a double right-circular cone. Depending on the angle, the sections are (1) a pair of straight lines; (2) a circle; (3) an ellipse; (4) a parabola; and (5) a hyperbola.

(c) Seahorses swim, unlike most fish, by passing waves along the dorsal fins.







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AROUND THE WORLD A WEEKEND GUIDE

Best baroque in Budapest

BUDAPEST is rivalling Prague. the Czech capital, as the bestselling Central European short-break destination, according to travel companies,

Prague probably wins on its architectural merits and slightly lower prices, but Budapest can offer the contrast of the baroque delights of the lofty Buda, with the Art Nouveau treasures of the lowlier Pest on the other bank of the river. The Danube is a priceless tourist asset, and for anyone who can master a menu in the tortuous Finno-Ugric tongue. the Magyar cuisine of duck and goosefat, sausages, pork, cream and wine has to be an improvement over the beer-and-dumplinginspired Czech diet.

The one thing that the cities have in common is rapacious taxi drivers who are happy to take unwary visitors for a ride. If you want to avoid them, get a hotel to call a cab for you from a licensed

Travelscenc (0181-427 4445) offers two nights' B&B in a threestar hotel in Budapest for \$267. Crystal (0181-241 5040) can do the five-star Grand Hotel Corvinus Kempinski for £369, while Danube Travel (0171-493 (0263) offers rooms in a pension from £247. All prices are for two nights' B&B per person, and include flights.

Treasure island

A"NEW" island is about to appear on the tourist map of the Sey-chelles archipelago. It is the tiny Fregate, 40 miles off Mahe, named by a French seaman in 1744 after the frigate birds nesting on the island's reefs. Even today the human inhabitants are greatly outnumbered by the wildlife, which includes 50 species of bird. including the indigenous magpie robin, as well as geckos, marine nurtles and giant tortoises.

However, to the dismay of the American hotel company AGC Management, which is constructing a luxury resort, a number of rats joined the island's wildlife brigade last year. They were believed to have swum ashore from passing ships, no doubt liking what they saw of the island's top-rated beaches and lush vegetation. A special team from New

the rat problem, which I am assured has now been solved, and the Frégate Island Private development is due to open this December. Its to luxury villas, sleeping two to four people, do not come cheap at \$1,200 \$1,500 (£775-£970) per day, but there is always the chance of finding the buried treasure that Ian Fleming, the creator of James Bond, believed pirates had left behind. Further details from

JILL CRAWSHAW'S TRAVEL TIPS

(0049 69 hShU 4044). Parades and all that jazz



trumpeting in the streets of Cork between October 24 and 27, at what the locals call "the biggest jazz party in the world", with open-air jazz parades, outdoor sessions in the

city centre and a jazz trail where visitors can stroll free of charge the 40 venues. The Benny Green Trio, Val Wiseman, the Drummin' Man and King Pleasure and the Biscuit Boys are some of the musicians taking part.

Cresta Holidays (0161-026 9099) offers hotels in and around Cork, travelling either by sea or air. Three nights B&B at the three-star Arbutus Lodge Hotel costs £155 per person, inclusive of the sea crossing between Holyhead and Dublin Bay for car and passengers, or £208 by air from Garwick,



In search of a colourful past:

MORE than 600 concerts, events will be taking place in Stockholm next year, when the Swedish capital takes over from Thessaloniki in Greece as the Cultural Capital of Europe. Architects will sculpt figures from ice and snow in Kungstragarden Park and Strandvagen during the winter months: Bjorn Ulvaeus and Benny Andersson, former Abba members, will premiere their musical Kristina fran Duvemala on February 14 at the new Cirkus auditorium. In the autumn, the Under Exposed exhibition featuring leading photographers such as Helmut Newton, Irvin Penn, Sally Man and Josef Koudelka will be

displayed in Stockholm's underground, already dubbed the world's longest art gallery because of its imaginative decoration by contemporary artists. Further information on 0171-724 5868, or the 24-hour brochure line (01476 578811).

Hanoi history

THE Hotel Metropole in Hanoi, below left, built in the Vietnamese capital in 1911, has played host to the lamous and the infamous over the years. Guests have included Graĥam Greene, Robert De Niro. Gérard Depardieu, George and Barbara Bush, Jacques Chirac and Catherine Deneuve. Now it is hoping to fill the gaps in its history with old postcards, stolen spoons and ashtrays, old menus and bills, or any other memorabilia that would help chronicle its legendary past. Run by the French until 1954, the Metropole lost much of its splendour during the war, was closed in 1990 and reopened after restoration in 1992. Now known as the Sofitel Metropole Hanoi, its rooms cost £143 single. £lbl for a double, per night. To offer help in the historical search, call Sofitel on 0181-754 8788; for reservations call

Though not using the Metropole Hotel, a new range of eight tours throughout Vietnam is available from Guerba Expeditions (01373 82601). A 15-day Overland Adventure including Hanoi costs £660 per person B&B, excluding flights.

Families first

0181-263 4570.

THOMSON Holidays (0990 143503) says its Superfamily to £325, programme for 1998 will give respectively.



families everything they have asked for, including pre-bookable aircraft seats (at £5 per adult), interconnecting hotel rooms for parents and children. and Superfamily hotels that are the first stop on the airport transfer bus route.

Babycare equipment is prov ided: free cots and highchairs bottle equipment is £10 per holiday, and playpens and strollers are £15 each to hire.

Among the 21 child-friendly

resorts are the purpose-built Ixia in Rhodes and Protaras in Cyprus. Prices start at £229 per adult, £69 for the first child under 12, £138 for the second child for a week's half-board at the Hotel Taurus Park on the Costa Brava's Pineda in May. Peak prices rise

Pilgrims' progress VISITS to two of Europe's oldest and finest hotels are included in the

eight-day Camino de Santiago coach tour next year from Magic of Spain (0090 462442). It follows the ancient pilgrims' route through northern Spain to the resting place of St James in Santiago de Compostela. The Hotel San Marcos at Leon was a 12th-century pilgrim's lodge, while the Hotel de Los Reyes Católicos was founded almost 500 years ago by King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella as a hospital for sick and weary pilgrims. Converted to a parador in 1954, the hotel retains its original cloisters and

PARTICIPANTS on the tour will not receive the official "compostela", the certificate that proves they have completed the pilgrimage - for which they would have to arrive on foot, horseback or bicycle. However, they will visit the medieval and Gothic highlights of Europe's oldest tourist route in Santo Domingo, Burgos, Astorga and Ponferrada, all leading to the magnificent Romanesque cathedral.

There are two days at the end of the tour to explore the cathedral and Santiago itself. Take your umbrella - Santiago is known as a medieval aquarium and even, less politely, as the chamberpot of Spain. The tour costs between £799-£1,049, depending on the time of year, which includes flights and coach travel, half-hoard accommodation and entrance fees.

CAMPUS Travel has launched its own free Rough Guide to Travel. distributed at universities and colleges or available from 0171-730 Sill. It gives details of fares. student passes and working holidays. For example: a Eurolines bus pass covers 17 cities for £159: Eurotrain Explorer tickets allow travel between London, Amsterdam, Brussels and Bruges for £71: the Mercosur Airpass covers Brazil. Argentina and Uruguay for \$225 (£145). The International Student Identity Card (ISIC) offers more than 17,000 discounts on flights, car hire. YHA accommodation as well as a 12-week subscription to The Times and The Sunday Times for £12. The card costs £5 from student travel offices or

FRANCE

How to avoid being hijacked

The latest **Travellers** Handbook offers a wealth of hints for the adventurous

f there is one volume that travel writers and editors turn to more than any other, it is the Traveller's Handbook. On Monday (September 29), Wexas publishes the latest edition of this reference guide, containing nearly 1,000 pages of information on everything from understanding airline ticket taxes to surviving a hijack.

traveller

Michael Introduced by Palin, the guide has contributions from some of the country's best travel writers -Nicholas Crane discusses travelling by bicycle, Benedict Allen describes travels with his video diary, and there are sections on "The Concerned Traveller" by Professor David Bellamy, "The Polar Travel-ier" by Ranulph Fiennes and "Travels with my Camera Crew" by Clive Anderson.

The guide includes detailed sections on capitals, language, currency, religion, population, visa and inoculation requirements, airlines and food. I tested the handbook in

response to a friend's query about travelling to Georgia. The book performed well, giving, as well as the basics, details of currency restrictions. public holidays, a hospital address and telephone number, and realistic information about telecommunications with the UK: "IDD in theory available, in practice almost impossible." However, it did not advise having any inoculations before travelling to Georgia, whereas the Medical Advisory Services for Travellers Abroad suggests taking precautions against hepatitis A and typhoid.

Despite a surely superflu-ous section on "Choosing Travelling Companions". which advises you to visit the pub together before venturing to more exotic locations. The Traveller's Handbook is unpatronising and direct. It lacks local flavour but this



The handbook tells you how to get on with the locals

avoids the disappointment of a recommended restaurant falling below expectations. It is no replacement, however, for a regional guide book. • The Traveller's Handbook (Wexus, £14.99).

■ A FURTHER essential guide for the discerning independent traveller is published this week. Unquenchable in its search for value for money and justifiably proud of its independent status. Which? Hotel Guide 1998 claims to offer a warts-and-all consumer report on some 1.000 hotels in England, Scot-

land and Wales. The guide is rewritten each year and attempts to respond directly to customers' complaints: the 1998 guide pinpoints hidden charges, and offers advice on how to assert

Recommended hostelries range from three-bedroomed B&Bs in Inverness to The Hempel in Bayswater, each of them described in remarkable detail. As British tourist authornies have failed to pro-duce a national system for grading hotels, the Which? guide is introducing its own catagories, including Imaginative Bedrooms, Brilliant Breakfasts, Island Hideaways, Budget Options and that old British favourite. Quirky Character.

JOANNA HUNTER

• The Which," Hotel Guide 1998. Penguin £14.90.

Don't forget to pack a mask

THE BEST advice for anyone planning an imminent trip to Malaysia. Indonesia or Singapore is to pack a smog mask, writes Cath Urquhart. The region has become enveloped in a thick cloud of pollution known as "the haze", a result of forest fires burning in Indonesia.

Frustratingly for travellers. confusion surrounds the extent of the problem. The haze appears to be most thick in the east Malaysian state of Sarawak, and Sumatra in western Indonesian, both of which are slightly off the main tourist trail, although popular with independent travellers. But the stifling smog is

affecting a vast swathe of south east Asia, including Malaysia. Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand, In particular, residents of the Malaysian capital, Kuala Lumpur, and Singapore are reporting high pollution levels and breathing problems.

TRAVEL companies in Britain say they have had few cancellations, but many worried holidaymakers have been phoning for advice. A spokeswoman for travel agent Trailfinders said: "We have had a number of calls. Clients who are travelling immediately are postponing their trip or swapping destinations." Operators to the region

seem prepared to be generous. Spokesmen for The Imaginative Traveller, British Airways Holidays, and Kuoni, said clients due to go to the region were being offered the option of postponing their trip, or choosing a different destination, without penalty. Regional airlines including Singapore Airlines, Cathay Pacific, Qantas, and Malaysian Air-lines, all say flights are operating as normal.

Anyone concerned about the haze should contact their tour operator before cancelling. Those with breathing prob-lems should be wary of visiting the region, the Foreign Office says. And everyone should pack that smog mask.

■ Cycle shops stock smog masks, including: the Bandit Scarf (E11.95); the City Mask (£19.95); the X-Treme Urban Mask (£24.09). Also available from Respra; 0171-721 7300.

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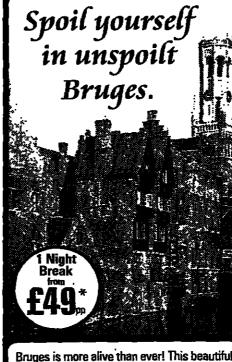
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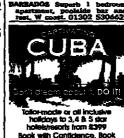
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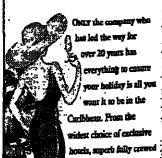
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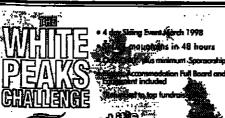
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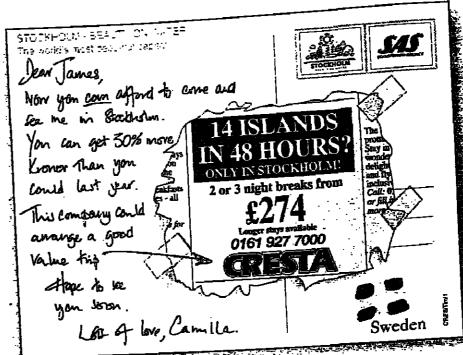
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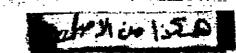
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In Worcestershire, David Blundell walks where an English king

faced a warring Welsh chieftain

The two things Worces-tershire has in abundance are countryside and history - and Abberley is an ideal centre for exploring both on foot. For an easy afternoon's circular walk, drive to the village of Great Witley and set off from the ear park near the school. Walk back up the main road, turn-ing right just past the Hun-dred House Hotel, and follow the lootpath up the slope of Abberley Hill.

At the top of Abberley Hill, pick up the Worcestershire Way (signposted with a pear motil). There are fine views of the Woodbury Hill, with the Malverns in the background and, in the distance. Bredon

The Abberley Hills command the surrounding countryside and it was on their crest that in 1405 Henry IV posted his army. Facing him. on Witley Hill, was Owain Glyndwr, with 10,000 Welshmen, supported by a force of 12,000 French. After eight days the two sides settled for a draw, and Glyndwr withdrew into his Welsh fastness with his French backers.

Looking back towards Witley, you will see the ruins of Witley Court, one-time home of the Earl of Dudley. The house, abandoned in 1937 after a fire, was in its day one of the great houses of England, Queen Adelaide lived there in the mid-19th century, and it later became the epitome of Edwardian excess: at Christmas, it was the custom to hang

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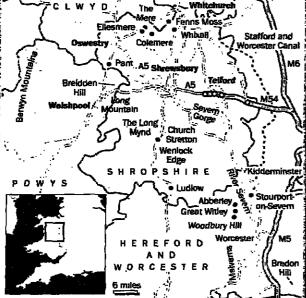
a tree in the great ballroom with jewellery, instead of fairy lights.

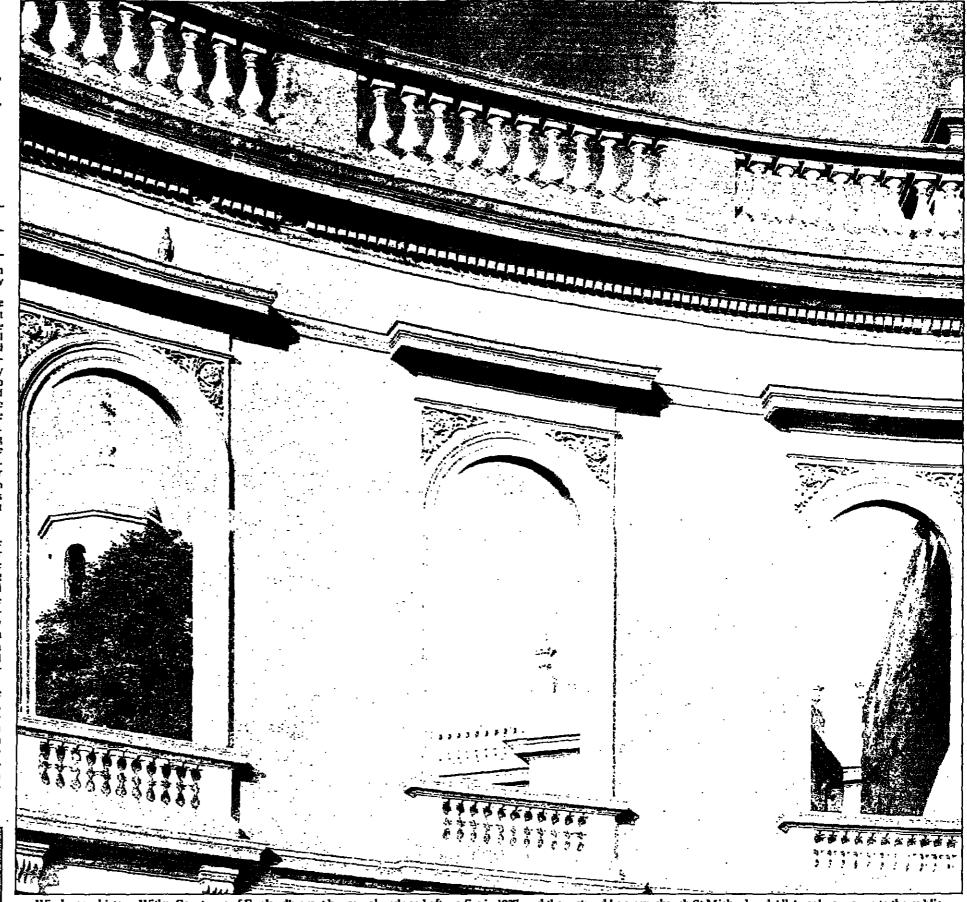
Next to the shell of the house is one of the country's finest (but least-known) baroque churches. St Michael and All Angels, which was restored after the fire, contains a stunning collection of paintings by the Italian artist Antonio Belluci. The house and grounds, now under the care of English Heritage, and the

church are open to the public. Resume your walk, turning left and passing an Ordnance Survey Triangulation point. From here you can detour northwest down the hillside to the village of Abberley and its restored Norman church of St

limbing back to the crest of the hill, bear down through the trees from the trig point to meet the road (Wynniats Way) and continue to a sign marked Public Footpath to Great Witley. Follow this narrow path until you reach a metalled road. Turn right towards the main road and then left towards your starting point.

Nearby is reputed to have stood the original gospel oak, in the shadow of which Augustine met a gathering of Welsh bishops to try to settle an agreed date for Easter. He apparently had no more success persuading the Celts with argument than did King Henry later with his knights, and he too ahandoned the contest.





Window on history. Witley Court, one of England's great houses, abandoned after a fire in 1937, and the restored baroque church St Michael and All Angels, are open to the public

WORCESTERSHIRE FACT FILE

■ David Blundell stayed at The Elms, Abberley, Worcestershire WR6 6AT (01299 896666). The house was built in 1710 and stands in the Teme Valley, 20 minutes drive from Worcester and the M5. Prices are £75 for a single room per night. cent lower Sunday-Thursday nights.) Dinner from £25 per person. Getting there: Travel by rail to Kidderminster. From London Euston, fares are from £26 for a daytrip, £33.50 return (journey time, two hours 45 minutes). By road, take the M5 heading south and leave at the first exit, for Droitwich. Maps: The Ordnance Survey Pathlinder 973 map for Great Witley [E4.50]: Landranger 138 - Kidderminster & The Wyre Forest (E4.95).

■ Tourist information: Worcester TTC (01905 726311).

Stanley Slaughter enjoys a wander through the gentler side of Shropshire

The less remembered hills

Tust past Telford on the A5, the road rises over a slight hill. For a moment, there is a sumptuous view of the county of Shropshire. Far to the northwest are the Berwyn Mountains, rising to 2,000ft. To the southwest are The Long Mynd and Wenlock Edge, and between them the twin peaks of Breidden Hill and Long Mountain. But it is the Shropshire Plain that holds

the eye. Spreading out 180 degrees around you, it is a vast patchwork of rolling green fields. It must rank as one of the great panoramas of England. Most visitors drive on, passing the historic town of Shrewsbury, past the delightful market town of Oswestry and on into the dramatic mountains of North Wales.

Those who do stop invariably turn south to the Blue Remembered Hills of A.E. Housman's South Shropshire and pretty towns like Ludlow and Church Stretion. Few visit the north of this large county, yet there is much there which deserves more than a second look.

Now the Shropshire Wildlife Trust, conscious of its precious inheritance, has set up 30 nature reserves throughout the county, the majority in the north. These reserves form a rich collection of wildlife and landscape that is not usually found in one small area.

The terrain of meres and mosses, which includes dramatic features like the Severn Gorge, were formed as the last lee Age came to an end about 15,000 years ago. As the ice retreated it gouged out hollows which later filled with water. Today many of those are the meres around Ellesmere, known as Shropshire's Lakeland. Where the land was softer, such as around Whixall and Fenns, peat mosses developed and became home to rare flora and fauna, such as Britain's largest spider, the Great Raft Spider.

In small ponds the spiders skim across the water, sometimes diving to seize their prey, their black bodies marked by two broad yellow stripes. Despite the name, the spider is not that big, its abdomen smaller than a 20p piece, but it has a spider's typical long, spindly legs which

make it look bigger. To the west are Llanymynech Rocks, a dominating limestone outcrop which was quarried until the turn of the century. Below, in the village of Pant, the vast kiln and some of the winding towers have been preserved. But the rocks have returned to



The dramatic Llanymynech Rocks

nature. High up the rock face are dozens of crows, jackdaws and pigeons and the sharp-eyed will also spot a pair of peregrine falcons. These large, grey birds. although plentiful in Wales, are among only ten known pairs in Shropshire.

Sadly the female has twice abandoned her nest this spring, leaving the eggs to the mercy of crows. The ground is covered with many varieties of orchids, including

FACT FILE

■ Stanley Slaughter travelled with Shropshire Tourism, Long Lane, Craven Arms, Shropshire SY7 8DU (01588 672676), which offers information on where to stay and places to visit.

How to get there: There is a regular rail service from London Euston to Shrewsbury via Wolverhampton. A supersaver return, travelling after 9.30am any day except Friday, costs E34. Information on 0345 484950. ■ Where to stay: Hawkstone Park

Hotel, Weston-under-Redeastle, near Shrewsbury (01939 200611): from £55 a night. Pen-y-Dylfryn Country Hotel. Rhydycroesau, near Oswestry (0169) 653700); from £30 a night per person. B&B: Vyrnwy Bank, Llanymynech, near Oswestry (0169) 830427), from £16 a night per person.

Further information: Shropshire Wildlife Trust, 167 Frankwell. Shrewsbury SY3 8LG (01743 241691).

the beautiful, multi-coloured bee orchid. valerian and wild roses. But North Shropshire has a gentler side, notably among the lakes around Ellesmere. Many of the meres have well-marked paths around them for walkers to enjoy the profuse plant and wildlife.

The Mere, off the main road just outside Ellesmere, is the most popular, especially in April and May when, from the shore, you can see heron chicks on a mid-Mere sland. But Colemere offers a bleaker and more isolated aspect and is home to some 80 species of birds, including finches warblers, tits, swans and geese.

The walk through the woodland of alder, pine and rowan is dominated by the sound of birdsong, while on the stretch that passes alongside the Shropshire Union Canal, you may be lucky enough to see the brilliant blue flash of a kinglisher.

Oswestry, near the Welsh border, is North Shropshire's largest town. Its dominating feature is the castle mound, formed by debris from the Ice Age. and where a fort has stood since pre-Norman times. It was a regular target in the border wars and the Welsh hero, Owain Glyndwr, captured it in his uprising of 1400. However it was not Glyndwr but Oliver Cromwell who reduced it to the piles of stone it is today.

The Puritan leader ordered its destruction as a reprisal for the Royalist sympathies of the town in 1644. It was acquired by the local council last century as a park to mark Victoria's Jubilee. There are some fine irms in the town and the Old Grammar School, first opened at Griddlegate in 1407, is still in business as a tourist information centre.

There is also a moving memorial to its famous son. Wilfred Owen, the First World War poet who was born in the town. The simple, silver plaque records Owen's birth, his award of the Military Cross in October 1918 and his death a

month later. On either side are verses from two of his best poems, Anthem For Doomed Youth and Futility. Both are poignantly appropriate. Owen was 25 when he died in a pointless action less than a week before the war ended. His parents, who lived in Shrewsbury, heard of their son's death on the day the church bells tolled to mark the Armistice.



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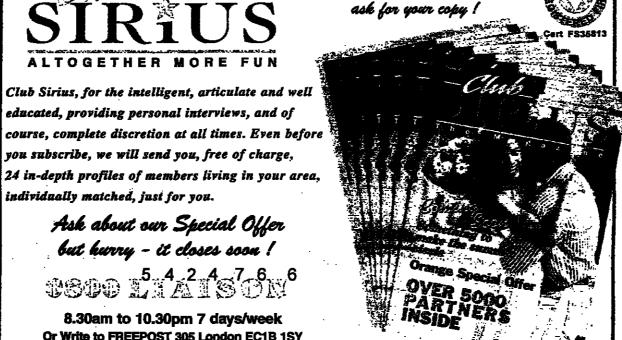


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ABUNDANCE OF STUNNING LADIES-Candleburners

has some super draps already but you get snap up very quadily so we always need more. Personal introductions and Endvanted Evening 0171 351 5535

Have you ever thought how difficult it is for attractive, intelligent, successful women to meet guys they can relate to? If they're in the top ten per cent of society intellectually, that means ninety per cent of the men they meet are non-starters. That's just on intelligence, let alone personality and 'the wife'. Assuming that you're unattached and could match their intellect, where could they go to meet you? And the probability of that? So now you know why we always have top quality ladies. If you do not understand the problem, go straight to the end of this ad.

Join us. We always need high quality gentlemen. However, you will need to be aged over 25, well-spoken, intelligent, at least 5'6" tall, successful in your career and completely unattached (no wife or mummy thank you). If you can't meet this specification, go straight to the end of this ad.

The choices

1. Continue with the "ownbo route" and hope you will eventually bump into someone classy. 2. Do something positive. Call The Executive Club on 07000 499 8833 and we'll spoil you

3. Save your money - The Executive Club will not work for you.

E.C.

ATTRACTIVE, INTELLIGENT LADIES HAVE A SPECIAL **PROBLEM**

It's Men, or lack of them. Not just any men, but REAL men. Not pretty banks, but men with intelligence, style, drive, charisms and personality. That's a REAL man. A man capable of stimulating the mind as well as the body. Oh! and definitely NOT MARRIED,

That's the problem. He can't be a mean man, an alcoholic, a wimp or still 'playing the field', and he certainly won't be living

at bome with 'montey'. You are probably successful in your career, may have reached the top, but something is still missing that neither money nor

job will ever satisfy. You need a soulmate. Not another boyfriend; a soulmate. You need someone you can respect and look up to, not have to mother. Someone YOU can lean on, share with, touch, trust and adore. That's 'oze hell of a guy'. Men of this quality are hard to find. We have them; they cost us a fortune in 'niche' marketing - this advert didn't cost pennies!

We're ALWAYS looking for good quality people to take the place of clients who pair up through us. If you are female and relate to this text, where do you go from here? Let's face it, how long have yo : had to get it right? We're professionals. Give it a try our way for six months - do it, call us, we'll probably transform your life.

if you are male and could meet the qualities of our ladies, we promise we can spoil you for chaice. You've never read an advertisement like this before, but there's never been an introduction service of this quality before, How good are we? The fixest service in Europe or your fee refunded towards any other service in the world - it's that world. We promise we can sit you down to dinner with some of the finest quality people you have ever met; after all we are

The Executive Club of St James's. We would welcome your call so we may tell you more about our service.

Call The Executive Club on 0171 499 8833 – 9.30am to 9.30pm (Weeker'ds and bank holidays??? – get a life!) weekdays only thank you. E.C.

CHESS

by Raymond Keene

Challenge for British schoolchildren claim that, with 24,000 entrants, it was the largest chess tournament ever held.

The organisers also state that they have research data from a study in the Bronx and Harlem districts of New York demonstrating that chess players outperform non-chess playing contemporaries in terms of literacy, numeracy and attendance at school. In addition it was found that the juvenile crime rates dropped and chess players became more self-assured. Success in chess gave them confidence to aspire to achieve in other areas of their lives,

This week's game is a further sample of play by the overall winner of the UK Chess Challenge. White: David Ho: Black: Richard

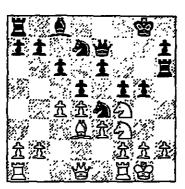
Played at the Mind Sports Oiyurpiad, Festival Hall, August 1997 Dutch Defence

2 c4 4 Nf3 6 e3 4 0-0 Bg5 Bd3 Bxe7 Qxe7 10 Ne5 White has thematically exchanged off the dark-squared bishops and

squares. However. Black has his own pluses in the form of his powerful knight at e4 and his impending kingside attack.

thus has good control over the dark

11 Ne2 13 Nf3 Rh6 12 NI4 Nd7



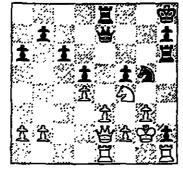
Perhaps White did not expect Black to "weaken" his king's position in this way, but now the white knights are sent into retreat and the black attack gains momentum.

THE organisers of the UK Chess 14 Ne2 g4 15 Ne1 Oh4 Now, in order to stave off mate, White must sacrifice a pawn and therefore weaken his own king's position.

16 h3 18 Kh1 20 Be2 22 Qe1 24 Bf3 gxh3 17 g3 h2+ Qg4 19 N14 Ndf6 Qg7 21 Neg2 Bd7 Kh8 23 cxd5 exd5 Rg8 25 Ne2 Be8

Now all the black reserves are brought up and the "bad" black bishop then becomes such a nuisance that White has to exchange it

8h5 27 Nxh5 Nxh5 Ng5 29 Bxh5 Rxh5 Rh6 31 Rh1 Qe7 Re8 33 Rae1 a6!!



This is a clever move. Black does not see an immediate way to make progress and so allows White to recapture his pawn, knowing that this will lead to a forced loss.

There is a deeper point to the move as well - on a full board, White is in zugzwang. 34 Rxh2

White snaps at the bait and soon

However, he was running out of good moves. He could only move his pawns at a2 and b2 without suffering an immediate loss and these pawns would soon run out of moves. 34 ...

This wins as the f3-square cannot be covered. Rxh2+36 Kxh2 Nxf3+

37 Kh3 Nxe1 Black wins the exchange and with it the game. 38 Qxe1 Qxe3 39 Qb4 Qe7 40 Qb3 Qg7 41 Qd3 Re4 42 Kh2 Qxd4 White resigns

WINNING MOVE

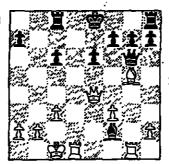
By Raymond Keene White to play. This position is from the game Marciano - Prie,

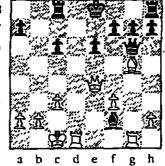
In this messy position, Black's 8 main problem is that he has not yet castled his king into safety. After White's next move he immediately regretted this. How did White continue?

The first correct answer drawn on subscription to the Staunton Society. The answer will be published next Saturday.

Last week's solution:1 ... Nc3+

Last week's winner:G Bird, Sticklepath, Okehampton,





COMPUTER GAMES AND PASTIMES

by Tim Wapshott

TWO OR three years back, everyhody seemed to want their own video cameras. Today it is digital cameras and we have not one but three Kodak DC25 beauties, worth £200 each, to be won. Armed with one of these you can snap your memories and easily download them into the computer for endless manipulation and fun. The Kodak DC25 is a sleek grey compact camera with built-in automatic flash. It is easy to use with a regular viewlinder for lining up

fill-in light for better results. On the back of the Kodak DC25 is a small back-lit LCD colour monitor for instantly reviewing all your snaps. You can view one or four at a time and delete any duffs at the push of a button to save storage space. You can take either 14 or 29 photos, depending on resolution quality, and additional pictures can be stored on slot-in memory cards, which hold 13 high

shots and a ten-second self-timer.

The flash also provides automatic

The camera comes with four software titles for transferring images from the camera to PC. enhancing, expanding or cropping them and, of course, printing.

resolution pictures per 2Mb.



(Another fun image programme is Kodak Picture Postcard Software. which makes colourful e-mail postcards of any digital image. This can be downloaded, free of charge, from http://www.kodak. com/diaHome/postcard/).

One day we will all be taking digital photographs but you could

be one of the era's pioneers by entering Cyberspace Thirty-Six, It was Frederick Barnard who said that a picture is worth ten thousand words but for this competition it should be worth exactly 100. To enter, vividly describe in precisely 100 words your favourite photograph. It can be a family snap or a

bring it to life by description alone. The competition is open to all ages. Send your entry, with your name, age, address and home telephone number to Cyberspace Thirty-Six. Computer Games and Pastimes, Weekend, The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN. You may also e-mail entries to us, clearly marked for Cyberspace Thirty-Six, at cyber@dircon.co.uk. The competition closes on Tuesday October 14, Times competition rules apply and the judges will not enter into additional correspondence.

well-known work but you must

In Cyberspace Thirty-Five you were asked to come up with slogans for T-shirts and one of the most delicious came from Darren Pinchin in Albury, Surrey: "Hush. Have a plum". Proving he needs to get out more, Martin Leigh of Bibury, Glos, came up with: "My other computer's a Spectrum". Failed scientists, meanwhile, might like the entry from B.W. Davies of Blewbury, Oxon, "Eurekalmost!" Some opted for traditional bon

mots, like Vinay Duddalwar from Aberdeen who wrote: "I used to think I was insecure - now I am not so sure" or nine-year-old Jodie

SOLUTION TO JUMBO 127

N E | 1 | T | 3 H | E | 4 R | H | 5 E | R | 6 E | N | 7 O | R | 6 T | H | 9 E | R | 16 E

Nel of Southend-on-Sea: "You can tune a piano but you can't tuna fish". The above can all consider themselves winners as may Geoff Holme of Lancing, West Sussex, He suggested a host of slogans, among them this: "I entered the Cyberspace Thirty-Five Competition and all I won was this lousy Anglia Multimedia Super Iron-On Kit". His other 19 entries formed part of his obsession with inventing haiku based entirely on the pork product Spam. Haiku are Japanese poems exactly 17 syllables long and while none beat his lousy T-shirt line, you can check out these and others at his Spam haiku Website (http://pemtropics.mit.edu/jcho/ spam/archive.html).

If you are internet surfing you might want to check out another gem, especially if you are having a Bad Hair Day. The London hairdresser Trevor Sorbie invented the wedge, scrunch and chop tit says here) and now he has opened his own online hair clinic. Key in your hairdo headaches (at http://www. trevorsorbie.com) and Trev will dispense advice and remedies by return. Fill in his questionnaire and, if you live in the UK, you will also be sent free product samples.

LATEST SOFTWARE

THE newest of the season's firstperson-perspective titles is Hexen II, a sure-fire hit developed by Raven Software and released by

The original Hexen quickly established itself alongside Doom and Quake as a quality title. Hexen II is equally solid with cavernous gameplay to be found in its Gothic warren of corridors and secret passages. The four horsemen of the Apocalypse each rule their own world with a suitably atmospheric architecture style: Meso-American, Egyptian, Greco-Roman and Medieval Europe.

The game serves up immediate blastfeast opportunities as monsters lurk at every turn and you get your hands on 32 types of weapon. But there is more to Hexen II than running around killing all that moves. New dimensions in the gameplay give added strategic depth to this role-playing adventure since your actions in one world can have consequences later in another.

You can opt to play as one of four characters with individual qualities, like being able to disappear or heal others, handy in multi-player mode for network or internet games. One of the next generation of the genre, Hexen II looks great and plays superbly well. "New-bies" to computing will love it, others might find it difficult to override inevitable feelings of déjà vu. Verdict:-8 out of 10. Masterful next-generation Doom clone: £39.99. The ten CD-Rom budget con

lation from Koch Multimedia, Ultrapack Vol 1, has something for everyone, even if all the titles have been around for a year or two. Lotus AmiPro is a word processor,



Hexen II will be a sure-fire hit

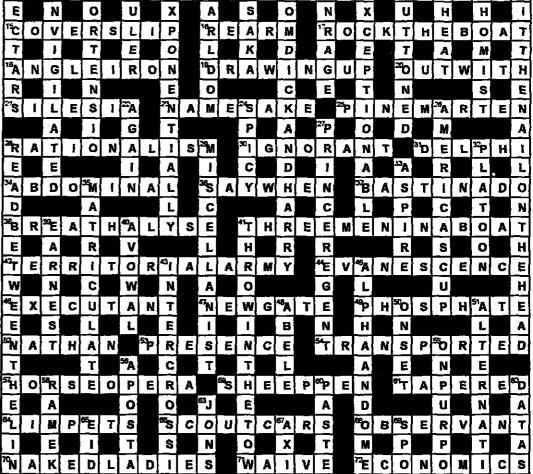
Corel Draw! is a popular graphics programme and 3D Home Design. though basic, will allow you to redesign the living room without lifting a stick of furniture. All the other titles are reference works and, with one exception, can be considered worthy additions to any software library.

There is the universal interactive

atlas World Atlas 5, How Your Body Works, a guide to the working of the human body, a current Egon Ronay guide to hotels and restaurants in the UK and Formula 1 Racing, covering 46 years of Formula One motor racing with full motion video and 200 action photographs.

Completing the pack is Collins Electronic English Dictionary & Thesaurus and the invaluable Library of the Future, which has a staggering 3,500 complete texts from historical literary works. The one let-down is the 1996 edition of the Hutchinson Multimedia Encyclopedia, which is a limp pretender with grace by Microsoft's excellent Encarta. All CD-Roms run on Windows 3.1 or 95. • Verdict: 7 out of 10. Decent

collection of reference titles, E29.99.



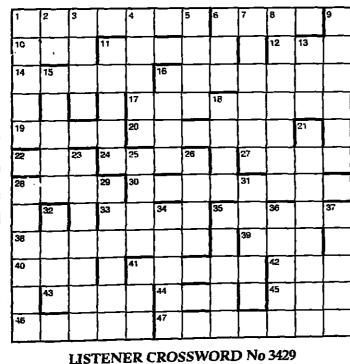
The winner of an Alfred Dunhill AD2000, worth £105, is Ian Richards, of Swansea in Wales

"SYNERGY" GENTLEMANSAGREEMENT

0

THE LISTENER CROSSWORD

No 3429: Phone Phreaks by BeRo



in association with Waterstone's

NAME ADDRESS...

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Cut out and send the completed crossword and coupon above to The Listener Crossword No 3429, 63 Green Lane, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL3 6HE, by Thursday, October 9.



WATERSTONES

The winner will receive a Waterstone's book token worth £75. Five runners-up will each receive a book token worth £10



Waterstone's first opened a bookshop in 1982, and now has a branch in virtually every major town and city in the UK and Ireland. Each of its 100-odd branches has at least major town and city in the UK. Out-of-Print 50,000 titles in stock and can order any book currently in print in the UK. Out-of-Print 50,000 titles in stock and can order any book surrently in print in the UK. Out-of-Print 50,000 titles in stock and can order any book surrently in print Editions, 0125-448596. For Booksearch, 01892-522700. Mailing Service and Signed First Editions, 0125-448596. For your nearest branch of Waterstone's, call 0181-742-3800.

FOR six-letter solutions, entries to the diagram should be thematically as shown in *The Chambers Dictionary*, 1993 edition (except that solvers should not attempt to reproduce the italic style). All other solutions should be entered as shown in the same dictionary. Where appropriate, pronounced care should be taken in shaping exactly the entries Two lights are unclued. The thematic equivalence of these

was proposed by one with a pronounced interest in the vagaries of the English language. Across clues marked * contain a redundant word. The thematic first letters derived from these words suggest the name of the proposer, which appears (first word, initially) in the completed diagram, very nearly connecting the two unclued words. Further evidence to confirm the connection may be derived from the extra letter in the definition part of the Down clues marked *. The extra letters spell three words, from each of which a thematic component may be selected, and combined, in order, to demonstrate the equivalence of the two unclued lights.

ACROSS

- The Sultan of Morocco is quiet before European force Other half of Jacque about due to be tailed Hamlet, a tragic tale, out of time, about leader of
- Japanese jumping fish is like one from Bangkok Frank Leslie liquidated organic laevorotatory dilute acetic acid
- Scots issue writ in German with faulty stroke Jovial Scots put in a bad mood: foggy times
- shrouding sun Skimmed vinegar pickled eggs
- Hydrocarbon is in sandy tract "Shewed" is past tense
- Good business to display triangular piece of land £50 note in advance to steal urns Last dances to rhythmic beat
- Based in Sapanca, I'm a nomadic camel-corps officer Avuncular constable about able to go locally at

K N A P'S F G L A M P'S

ENDAAGEENTAI

Y BRCCONSTRCT

SOOTHEDSAUTH

"E A S Y E "S "E R U "D I E

A R A O M T R Y M E T Y

S S U S C O N T U S 1 E

TARPANGEEPOS

Y I T E S E P I N D E N T

TOECALCITATE

L S L E D E N

- any time

 S Africa antelope reaches European district

 Diana wishes otherwise: Reg softens

 Bowman gets rid of her part of the bow

 Tangle over precious metal
- Slang got a right bashing Sympathetic allowing idea without merit, finally

- Stock helps in supply
- There's a recurring efflorescence

Spenser's Hymn to stop in British Library to

Like most churches, I'd be upset with autotelic

start with

DOWN

- Fin starts from short keel, for example, to gain acceleration Where, without hesitation, you sound good and hard
- and whistle Improve worlds by reforming diet
- Taree's resin is exported primarily with slaked time
- Four sports, Irish events confusing their starters? Fighter plane's air speed - these go higher than migs Fancy mine as inwardly shewn part
- Set on keeping the navy robust Contented cuckold due back after information
- They belong together ***13** First for access to information technology - this could
- be in "browse" Open illegible message prepared from nib of smudgy
- Short note it describes Kam or Panda, perhaps Sfex denoting condition - dirty old man
- Makes winder from forty old rushes Example of portmanteau for holding an inert matrix
- Skin problem described in cockney area Scores with sex appeal in Royal Society
- Scoiety's trustee against gallons of currency tending to
- Rotter twists ring turning on pain Associate out of office twinged
- Outside houris are lacking in break up Clotho starts to spin thread. RIP. End of life
- It's neat away from English, Untidy. Redo A way to back Irish head king
- Och, I suffered after dram just a wee one Oddly, auntie's cuckoo

Solution notes to 3426: Directions Enclosed by Adam

The Letters Latent answers are: 5. fog-lamps endamagement 13, constrict 18, erudite 20, araeometry 23. contusive 31. plate-layer 32. recalcitrate 34. Leyden 1. key-seats 2. hadrosaur 6. gendering 9. practitioner 12. board-sailor 17. stonewall 19. desperado 21 yestreen 24. tendril

The winner is: E.J. Mackenzie of Romford. Essex. The runners up are D.A. Reid of Dorking, Surrey: R.R. Tyler of Exeter, Devon; J. Gillam of Edinburgh in Scotland; M.W. Innes of Edenbridge in Kent; the Fortescue family of Cheltenham in Gloucestershire.

BRIDGE

G

by Robert Sheehan

COUNTING how many tricks or potential tricks the defence and the declarer are making is the most important tool of good card play. A top-class player and heavy winner went wrong on today's hand by neglecting that principle. The deal occurred in the £100 game at TGR's. (TGR stands for The Great Rose: the late Irving Rose was the first manager of the club, which has the highest-stake rubber bridge in the UK.)

Dir South Rubber Bridge Love all +A42 **YKJ** ♦KJ1096

♦A94 N **⊕** J 10 9 8 ♥A642 ♦A52 s 486

Contract: 3NT Lead: jack of spades

South opens INT(12-14) and North raises to 3NT. As West you lead the jack of spades: low from dummy, the three (discouraging) from East, and declarer wins with the king. Declarer continues with the four of diamonds, you play small, dummy plays the jack and East the eight. Declarer returns to his hand with a club to the king, and leads the seven of diamonds. How do you defend? At the table West played low, which proved fatal. The full deal is shown at the top of the next column. With two diamond tricks in the bag, declarer (New Zealand international Lionel Wright) cashed two more rounds of spades and then two more rounds of clubs. When East turned out to have the fourth club, declarer exited with his last club and East had to lead up to the king-jack of hearts, thus giving

₽A42 ♦ KJ 1096 **♣**A94 · N **⊉**J1098 E ▼010953 ♥A642 ♦A52 S **⊕**J753 **±**K076 ₩87 **●** Q74

♦KQ102 declarer his ninth trick. Back to West's play on the second round of diamonds. He can tell from the first round that East does

not have the queen. Incidentally, it is sometimes correct for East to duck with Qx, but not in this instance, where dummy has plenty of entries. Hence the danger in ducking the second diamond is that it might give declarer his ninth trick — for example, his clubs might have been KQxxx, or KQJx with the queen of spades. Count declarer's tricks, remember. So it is clear that West should win the second diamond. Now declarer

is marked with two tricks in spades, four in diamonds and two in clubs. If he has the queen of hearts, playing spades will not set up enough tricks for the defence even if East has the queen of spades, that is only four tricks. Thus the defence's only chance is to take four or more tricks in hearts. West switches to a low heart, and it declarer misguesses he goes off. Here is the final refinement West should take the first diamond Ducking risks giving the contract South initially had eight blac, winners. Taking the ace only costs if East has singleton queen of diamonds; a doubleton queen will

probably still make a trick.



TWO BRAINS **ANSWERS**

Solutions to the puzzles found on page 28

Ouestion 1: 12 The numbers on the righthand side are double the numbers diagonally opposite on the left. Question 2: Oct. For example,

triplets, sextuplets, quadruplets and octuplets.

pod) firm) elling AW) Grey Mac D J Sta to in 71 cester se 111 gman

72 51

rear rac-rildhed

are, nthalso am-

sap-the run the il — t "l He rack ner, te'll 71PF

ER..YER MEAN

T'COSMOS, SIR?

MODERN MANNERS by John Morgan

There is an area in which you can help me which is more etiquette than manuers. After five years as a widower. I remarried. My current wife's niece contends she has become my niece and is offended when i introduce her as my wife's niece. Is she my niece? My in-laws from my previous marriage say I am still their son-in-law. Am 1?

Name and address withheld.

A niece is defined as the daughter of a brother or sister, so your wife's niece is mistaken when she contends that she is your niece, too. She is correctly introduced as "my wife's niece", or "my niece by marriage". However, since this is obviously important to her, and manners are fundamentally about not doing things that upset others, you could stretch the semantics and refer to her as "our niece." Your in-laws from your previous marriage are also mistaken, even though this

earlier bond was ended by death and not divorce. Just as it is unacceptable to have two wives, it is equally inappropriate to boast a double dose of inlaws. They are more suitably styled as "my late wife's parents". while they can refer to you as "our late daughter's husband".

There are many conflicting opinions about the use of fish knives. Would you, once and for all, put paid to this seemingly insuperable problem. Maurice Taylor. Shrewsbury

Poor old fish knives, what A Poor old itsi source. cal tools attract. The prejudice around them developed in the 19th century, when there was a simultaneous proliferation of new money and novel eating implements. Fish eaters (as they were then called) became associated by some with the nouveaux riches. Those who wished to make a point continued to eat fish either with a fork and a small piece of bread in the old Georgian style, or later with two forks. The latter method was affected by some diehards until quite recently. Despite all their bad PR, fish knives are to be found at some grand tables. So if you've got 'em and like 'em -- then use 'em.

A friend of mine who I shall call Margaret Buckton is the tenant of an historic house. Under her lease she shows coach parties and other visitors around in the summer, but she is not allowed to charge under the terms of the trust. Currently, at the end of the summer, she is left with about £15 to give back to the trust. Is there any way she can encourage people to donate more? CJJ, Lincolnshire

I suggest she follows the A suggest site to example of a past treasurer to the Conservative Party, who rather

ALFRED DUNHILL

than asking prospective donors outright for a donation towards party funds, achieved substantial results by saying: "We need such and such amount to pay for our poster campaign." She can apply this simple model to her situation by choosing a feature or artefact in the house that needs attention. As she passes it during the tour, she should say plaintively, "This magnificent object was bought by the third earl. Unfortunately, as you can see, it is in need of restoration. We are currently trying to raise money for its repair and any donation, no matter how small. would be greatly appreciated." In this way people feel they can contribute to a specific and personal project, and the trust should end up with more than the paltry sum you describe.

What should you do when you have not been invited to a business party that you have a legitimate right to attend? The legitimate function is being hosted by a company you have done business

with and you know several people who are going, many of whom have asked whether you are at-tending. Should you ask the organisers whether your invitation has been lost in the post, or is discretion the better part of valour? Is it petty or a question of principle? What should you say

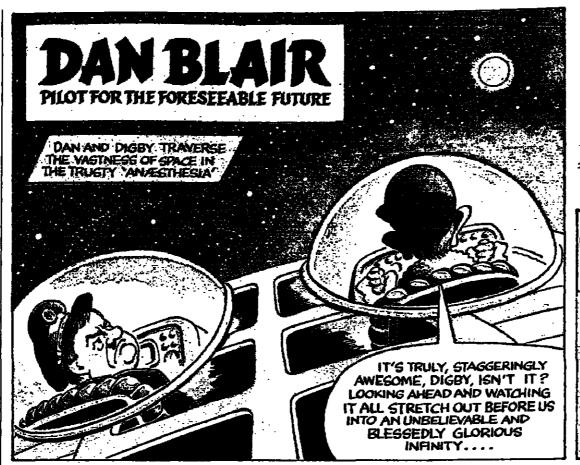
to your business colleagues? Neil Brooks, London WC2

It is vital to keep your cool. It is vital to keep you.
When asked whether you are attending the party, just say, "I would love to but I am sure I have a prior engagement." Do not demean yourself by ringing up and trying the "lost in the post" trick. However, if you feel you must go (after first asking yourself how important a two-hour cocktail party is in the greater scheme of things), you could try persuading a triend to telephone the organiser and say something along the lines of: "I want to send something to Neil Brooks, but have lost his address. I feel sure he is on your invitation list for your party." If you are desperate, it may be worth following the example of a well-known socialite who often persuades a friend of sufficient standing with the host to organise a supper afterwards for the errant party giver and herself, thus making her indispensable to the guest list. However, her cool rating is zero.

ls it still correct form to remove salt cellars and pep-per pots from the table after the main course of a meal? LL. Petersfield

Absolutely.

 The author is associate editor of Modern Manners. The Times. Weekend, I Pennington Street, London



WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

LOKI a. Poor girl in German fairytale b. A Caspian Sea fish c. A bad boy

RUNOUT a. Tanker deballasting b. Detention centre exercise

c. An artillery design feature

CONIC SECTIONS

a. Geometrical figures b. Shipboard morning parade c. Weather forecaster's map

HIPPOCAMPUS

a. Big-game photgrapher's hide b. A pop university

c. A seahorse

Answers on page 24 Answers on page 27.

TWO BRAINS

take 32 million years.

Question I: What is the missing number?



The man in the fourth

row - I'm making you the

Bishop of Liverpool

The winning caption for last week's picture competition was submitted

by the Reverend C. Skilton of South Croydon in London

Tri is to sex as quad is to . . .?

THE brain weighs about the same as a bag of sugar — approximately 2 percent of bodyweight. But it accounts for up to 20 per cent of the body's energy needs. Each nerve cell in the brain can be connected with up to 100,000 others. Counting each nerve connection in the human brain cortex — the outer layer — at the rate of one per second would



NO, YOU DAFT

MY TERM OF

OFFICE!

PONTEFRACT PILLOCK

by Brian Greer

CROSS WORDS

27 1x 97 (4)

s I was saying, the main lexicographical guides in The Times crossword are Collins English Dictionary, the Concise Oxford and Chambers. The first two are relatively similar in their coverage of commonly used vocabulary. Chambers, by contrast, contains more obscure words and meanings, including archaisms, Scottish words, variants of spellings by the likes of Milton. Spenser and Shakespeare, and the occasional hapax legomenon such as "egma" (Costard's attempt at "enigma" in Love's Labour's Lost).

My usual practice is to consult all three dictionaries. One of the lessons I have learnt as a

compiler, and even more painfully as a crossword editor, is that dictionaries and other reference works are by no means consistent in definition or even spelling of words.

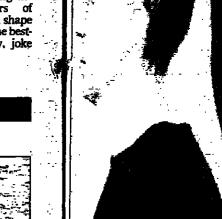
On one occasion, a reader took issue with spelling the Hungarian dance as "czardas" rather than "csardas". The Concise Oxford includes the former as a variant of the latter, Collins gives only "czardas", whereas Cham-bers states that "czardas" is an erroneous spelling of "csardas" (so why include it!).

Meanings also vary, particularly (or so it seems to me) in the definition of food. "Entremets" is a light dish served ... between the main courses" in Chambers

but is also defined as "a dessert" in Collins.

Such subtle distinctions can be important in deciding if a clue is valid. For example, I received an objection to the clue: What trans-lates into "tapas"? (9) on the grounds that "antipasto" means an hors d'oeuvre", whereas "tapas" is plural. The clue is defensible, however, because Collins defines "antipasto" as "a course of hors d'oeuvres". Finally, I cannot resist quoting the definition in Chambers of eclair" as "a cake, long in shape but short in duration" - the bestknown, but not the only, joke

tucked away therein. Brian Greer is Crossword



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THE SER TIME

PICTURE LINE

READERS are invited to suggest what the people in the picture below is saying

This picture, recently printed in The Times, will appear again next week with an entry chosen from those submitted.

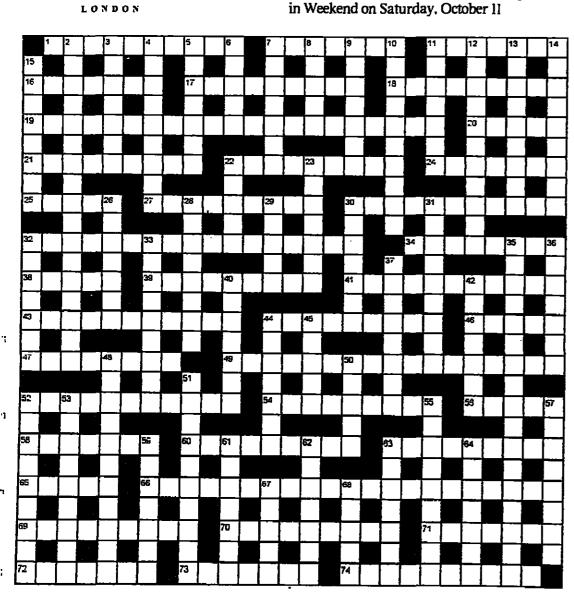
Send "speech bubble" suggestions on a postcard with your name and address to PictureLine, Weekend, The Times, I Pennington Street, El 9XN.

The Editor's decision is final. The closing date for entries is Wednesday. September 24.



JUMBO CROSSWORD 129

The prize for the first correct solution to be opened will be an Alfred Dunhill AD2000, worth £105, the world's first interchangeable, capless rollerball/ballpoint pen. Streamlined and made from silver-plated black resin, it has perfect writing balance. Entries should be sent to: Jumbo Crossword 129, The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN to arrive by Monday October 6. The name of the winner will be published



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POSTCODE .

ACROSS
1 One hemmed in by top men not somehow in complete control (10)
7 A domestic device for keeping

11 Commercial traveller suffered with case finally jam-packed (7)

24 Demanding old lover, one with respectable bloke (7)

27 Dubious forecast makes Rex join

very large company in expectation

fancy (17)

atmosphere around Fairy Queen (8) 38 Crash reverberated behind car

park (5)
39 Unfashionable drapes looking terrible unfurled (9)

41 They should make sound excellent within noddles (7-4)
43 Fluffy stuff, this was first seen in urban community (11)

46 What may sound like pirate's

contributions? (8,9)

54 Lost again at sea and longing for home? (9)

56 Fabric made by fantastic spinner finally running out (5)
58 Bread is thrown for gull, perhaps

60 They make court characters look flat (4-5)

way? (6-3) 65 Woman, fifty, found in a river (5)

69 Seek to establish a view in Sussex or back away from argument? (5.4) 70 The sound of this bird makes cat bestir itself (9)

71 In mature years, care to resettle in country area? (7) 72 Boy grasps some of the Bard's work (7)

- terrible understanding (7)

the rest apart (4.3)

16 Morally strict saint before going after gold (7)

17 Provisional shelter — it's set back in avenue (9)

18 Believing something, and trying to impress, after a little drink (9)

19 Prepares for various debates and acts with little enthusiasm (4.7.3.7)

20 Saying that's not of the BC era? (5)

21 Demanding woman could make great man start to tremble (9)

22 Endlessly put up with ruler, and favoured showing fresh enthusiasm (4-5)

25 Bloomers you come across in prose sometimes (5)

30 MP seeing supporter embracing short man and companion (11) 32 Talker on TV is not as clear, I

34 Endless radiance attaches to an

44 Part arose - from its motion? (9)

sword? (5)

47 What tall man might wear in many clubs when congregating? (4.4)

49 Poorly paid, after such regular contributions? (9.0)

52 Confine naughty niece threatening everyone involved? (11)

63 Modern lady - treat in a new

66 Following a false trail to obstruct Charles II, perhaps — not perched in an oak! (7,2,3,5,4)

73 What's found among children, ten 74 The right documents (5-5)

2 Person met in satire — possibly an unfair caricature? (17) 3 One may a moment of such lifelessness in a physics lesson (7) 4 Outwit but go too far? (9)

5 Invest in hospital department before sign of deterioration (7)

6 Point one expressed differently in maths (5) 7 I must do some marking - not

all correct each error (7) 8 One with few brains has nothing inside in a manner of speaking

Insect meets terrible fate in hot drink (4,3)

10 Little girl's state, one cut out to be separate (10)
11 Toper is drunk, making sudden thrust (7)

12 No amateur cricketer, I — one needing runs as a new recruit (11) 13 I bet Hazel could beat this girl (9) 14 For example, our country diner used kitchen utensil (3-6)

15 Merriment subsequently interrupted by expression of disgust (8)

22 Players in orchestra not right round singer (5)

23 US resident has a way of thinking about the Queen (7)
26 Cunning — vehicle is on time (7)
28 Old books quoted in measure leading to revolution (8) 29 For a teapot, essential component is spout (5)

30 Brutal type, however dear to 31 William is holding a way to make the game (9)

32 Administrative centre's financial assets (7)

assets (1)
33 Announcement of certain policy in seaside feature (9)
35 Cinderella I now read afresh — and it's a great story for children (5.2,10)
36 A bishop desperately loves to forgive (7)

forgive (7) 37 Vibrating remarkably (8) 40 Writer needs an Anglican church to find atonement (7)

Possibly corporation's empty talk, mostly done to deceive (7) Part of weekend that's @acc@, pleasant, almost @wicked@ (7) 45 Holy matter engrossing one with

48 Useful cable I sever accidentally 50 Collect in a celebration of Eucharist (5) 51 Either surplus or deficit could

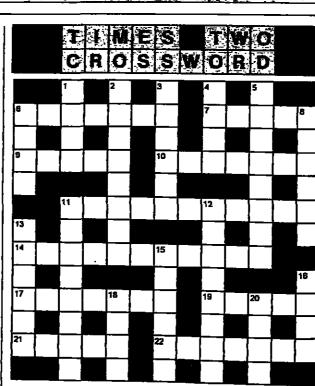
cause argument (10)
52 Illustrations showing batting positions at wicket (9) 53 Portrayer of Lear maybe starts to tremble re-enacting old man (9) 55 Old instrument with a flashing

light outside US city (9) 57 Coward's play that may bring tears to the eyes (3,5)
59 Call promises to repay unreliable?

61 Jumper for sport (7)

62 Anger about awkward pet -animal sloughing skin? (7) 63 The foreign player at table grabbing dame's frontage is most lascivious (7) 64 You may get the point very soon!

67 Made progress, having to start prevailing fashion (3,2) 68 Tenderness is right in the course of passion (5)



No 1210

DOWN

1 NE river, damage from use (4)

2 Knowing foreign tongues (8)

Gambling game, lethal

Destructive confusion (6)

12 Very wet; fat from roast (8)

13 Confused, rotten (eg egg) (6)

3 Artist's workplace (6)

Russian version (8)

Sacred wader (4)

6 Job; letters (4)

11 Furthest back (8)

15 Develop over time (6)

16 Net; engage (teeth) (4)

18 A banded chalcedony (4)

20 Deer trail; hole for coin (4)

ACROSS

6 Foretell (7) 7 A shrub; a sweeper (5) 9 Indifferent gesture (5)

10 Manifest (7) 1) Justification for existence (6.5)14 Establish boundary (of con-

duct) (4,3,4) 17 Kipling's grey-green greasy River (7)

19 Gum: imit. jewellery (5) 21 Pale (pink): curt (answer) (5) 22 Sunflowers artist (3,4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1209

ACROSS: 4 Viper 7 Adequate 8 Dirt 9 Shambles 10 Shrewd 13 Au fait 14 Repent 15 Cheers 18 For a fact 19 Iris 20 Levitate 21 Dwell DOWN: 1 Garish 2 Kettle 3 Cursed 4 Vermouth

5 Palliate 6 Russet 11 Repartee 12 Windfall 14 Refund 15 Catkin 16 Elijah 17 Ruined

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